



# APRIL 2021



## FROM PASTOR JAY

1804 GUILFORD  
COLLEGE RD.  
JAMESTOWN, NC  
27282

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### Worship Schedule

**9:00 am**  
**CLC and**  
**Live-Streamed**

**11:00 am**  
**Sanctuary\* and**  
**Live-Streamed**

Please see JPC's website to  
view live-stream services

\*beginning April 4th

Rev. Dr. Jay D. Smith  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Casey Riker  
Associate Pastor

### **SESSION**

#### **Class of 2021**

Mary Brooke Guernier  
Ricki Hall  
Kim Schoepske  
Brian Stroud  
Michelle Wentz  
George Wissmiller

#### **Class of 2022**

Chip Cromartie  
Lenny Dean  
Gary Fulp  
Joanne Graham  
Karen Johnson  
Danielle King

#### **Class of 2023**

Randy Dabbs  
Krista Hannah  
Doug MacColl  
Chris Mills  
Darryl Ray  
Bruce Shaw

### **April Showers, Zoom Meetings, and the Risen Christ!**

April Showers bring May flowers! That was the expression I grew up hearing in Pennsylvania. It may not be accurate for our part of the North Carolina Piedmont? Just this morning there were five or six different blooms in my yard. I am not going to embarrass myself and attempt to name any other than the wild daffodils that pop up everywhere and the forsythia the stands alone in its brilliant yellow radiance. As a kid my next-door neighbor had a row of them along her house and they were my favorite place to hide during hide and seek. The brilliant pinks, purples, and yellows combined with the delicate pastels in my yard are great reminder of the new life of Spring and the hope of Easter in Jesus Christ.

I don't know about you but 2020 felt like an entire year of April showers in some ways with all the things we couldn't do, couldn't attend, or had to cancel. As I draw closer to fifty, I find myself wondering if I even really need to count my 2020 birthday because I can't confirm it really happened! Don't get me wrong. There were lots of May flowers in 2020 also. The work of Outreach to feed the community was definitely a beautiful flower of hope. Welcoming the preschool students back to the campus without a single COVID incident was also a bloom of God's grace budding from a once dormant branch. Worshiping together has also been a bright spot, perhaps the brightest for me!

I am pleased to announce that starting with Easter Sunday we are going to begin to allow a live audience back into the Sanctuary for worship! This will need to be a smaller group and we will ask that you follow social distancing practices. There will also be a Signup Genius for this service. While this is not as critical in the CLC where we have space, it is exceedingly critical in the Sanctuary. Please be patient with us as we feel our way. The live streaming has now been going on a few weeks too. So, if you would rather worship at home, or in your car, or at the beach you will be able to do that! I don't think that will ever go away. That is part of the new reality. The exciting part about streaming, for me, is more about events than worship. Preschool programs and graduation, Christmas pageants, memorial services, and other special events will now be able to be viewed by people (family members and friends) all over the world. Joshua played basketball this spring at the YMCA.

(con't)

(con't)

Only one spectator per player was allowed in the building. To get around this I formed a family Facebook group. I invited only family members to the group. Then I live streamed his games each week. My parents, my brother, and several aunts and uncles were able to watch his games. With the exception of my parents NONE of them had ever seen him play a game. We did the same for Jordan's swim meets. Maybe some good has come from becoming a Zoom society?

It is very easy in this new world to get isolated from everyone else. It is very easy in this world to get complacent with using COVID as an excuse. Make no mistake I believe that we need to be socially distant and wear masks and I have been vaccinated. What I mean is that as the world is opening up it could be tempting to just stay closed emotionally, spiritually and in our relationships!

This April instead of focusing on what we missed or what we are looking forward to perhaps we can focus on the beauty of God's creation all around us and on the annual reminder that Jesus declared victory over sin and death for you and me on Easter? I encourage you to worship with us, either in person at 6:45, 9:00, or 11:00, or online at either 9:00 or 11:00. Celebrate the Risen Lord. Look with the ladies into the tomb and see that it is empty! 2021 is going to be a better year for you, your church, and this world! Get ready to be a part of it! Happy Easter!

## DONATIONS

Donation to JPC Food Pantry Fund  
In memorial of Barbara Priddy, Charlotte Griner's sister, by  
Nancy Guiton

Donation to JPC/Hamil Kerr  
In memorial of John Parks by  
Nancy Guiton

Donation to JPC Outreach Endowment Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Loyce Lesley

Donation to Lane Pleasants Scholarship Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Ruth Clark

Donation to JPC Outreach Endowment Fund  
In memorial of Paul Martin by  
Frances Wolfe  
Linda Wolfe

Donation to JPC Outreach Endowment Fund  
In memorial of Paul Martin by  
Vivien Carson

Donation to JPC Food Pantry Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Dot Russell  
Charlotte Griner

Donation to JPC Outreach Endowment Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Cecil and Pat Little

Donation to JPC Bus Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Jeff and Mary Brooke Guernier

Donation to JPC Worship Endowment Fund  
In memorial of Joye Wentz by  
Olene Mabe  
Steve and Louise Monroe  
Jim and Darryl Ray  
Wes and Lynette Smitherman  
Wayne and Betty McCray  
The Klingel Family

## Clerk's Corner

*The Session of JPC met on March 16, 2021 for its monthly stated meeting. Below are the highlights from that meeting, as well as other important updates:*



at  
in

- The Re-Opening Task Force (RTF) met on March 14, and recommended to Session its stated meeting on March 16, to increase the maximum allowed capacity for the indoor/-person worship service in the CLC. Session approved the recommendation from the RTF, and capacity was increased from 100 to 200 people effective Sunday, March 21st. Additionally, the RTF also recommended the Session consider re-opening the sanctuary for the 11:00 service. The Session voted to re-open the sanctuary with a maximum capacity of 25 family units beginning on April 4, Easter Sunday. Be sure to RSVP for service using Sign Up Genius or by calling the church office.
- The Christian Education Committee is continuing to plan for the restart of Sunday School. Be on the look-out for more information coming soon.
- The Session of JPC welcomed new member, Rob Purdie, at their March 16th Stated Session meeting. Rob will be formally welcomed by the congregation in April.
- The youth will be conducting a fundraiser for their summer mission trip to Chicago.
- The bus committee is organizing a fundraising campaign in order to purchase a new bus. Please see Pastor Casey for more information.
- The children of the church have received books that will lead them and their families through readings and activities over the Lenten season. See Grammy Sammie for more information or to get a book.
- The Outreach Committee is preparing for 60 Easter boxes for Family Services and Jamestown Elementary School. The Frogs will make candy bags for each child. Cards will be made for each box, as well.
- JPC will be serving at Urban Ministries on March 26th.
- Worship services are now being live streamed.
- There will be three (3) worship services on Easter Sunday: A Sunrise Service at 6:45am; the 9:00 contemporary service in the CLC and the 11:00 traditional service in the sanctuary. There will also be a virtual (recorded) Maundy Thursday service/cantata on Thursday, April 1st.

With Easter Blessings,

Krista A Hannah  
Clerk of Session

*As a reminder, your Session asks for you to make every attempt possible to keep your pledges current. Offerings and tithes can be made to the church office, at Sunday worship or virtually through the JPC app or by clicking "Giving at JPC" on the church website: [www.jamestownprez.org](http://www.jamestownprez.org).*





## GROWING AND PROSPERING IN OUR THIRD YEAR

We had a great day of clean-up with the JPC Girl's Scouting BSA Troop on Saturday, March 6th. The girls and their leaders worked with Kathy Coolidge, Barbara Koehler and Nancy Seay to weed and spread new soil in each of the raised beds in our community garden. We had a nice time of work, fellowship, learning, mentoring and laughing! And now, we are looking forward to another successful growing season. Seeds and transplants of beets, carrots, leaf lettuce, kale, spinach, collards and swiss chard will be planted in April. Be on the lookout for our spring gardening schedule so that you can help and join in the fun!

In the meantime, read the latest communication from NC Extension about gardening in Guilford County. <https://guilford.ces.ncsu.edu/community-and-school-garden-network>

### **Roasted Carrots**

- 12 Carrots
- 3 tablespoons good olive oil
- 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh dill or parsley



Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

If the carrots are thick, cut them in half lengthwise; if not, leave whole. Slice the carrots diagonally in 1 1/2-inch-thick slices. (The carrots will shrink while cooking so make the slices big.) Toss them in a bowl with the olive oil, salt, and pepper. Transfer to a sheet pan in one layer and roast in the oven for 20 minutes, until browned and tender. Toss the carrots with minced dill or parsley, season to taste, and serve.





## EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunrise Service  
6:45 AM

Contemporary Service (CLC)  
&  
Live-Streamed Service (JPC Website)  
9:00 AM

Traditional Service (Sanctuary)  
&  
Live-Streamed Service (JPC Website)  
11:00 AM

Please be good enough to signup for both in-person services at the following links, We are doing this to be sure that social-distancing is practiced and to get seating arrangements situated in advance.

9:00 AM Service (200 people)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4fada82ba7fd0-900>

11:00 AM Service (25 family units)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4fada82ba7fd0-1100>

### To Tithe or Not to Tithe

2020 was a tough year for everyone. Schools, businesses, churches, restaurants ... everything was shut down. We were working from home and trying to play teacher for our children who were learning from home. It was a long 8 months!

The government tried to help everyone cope with stimulus payments. These payments really helped some families. To others, it was just extra income.

If you are one of these families that do not really need the stimulus payment, I challenge you to give a portion of this money to the church. We've heard about the increase in need for food, clothing, shelter, and basic needs of our community due to the hardships individuals and families have faces in light of COVID.

JPC's Outreach has not only stepped up but stepped up to the tippy top of the rung to help our community with these needs! Outreach has supplied 80 boxes of diapers, 615 food boxes, 1030 breakfast bags for Feeding Lisa's Kids, 800 sandwiches for the homeless, and so much more!

The needs of our community are not decreasing. Please prayerfully consider tithing a portion of the next stimulus payment you receive.

## Alphabet Soup- QCDs, IRAs and RMDs What You Should Know

Tax time is approaching - it's a great time to think about using QCDs from your IRAs to meet your RMDs. Confused? Read on!

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act law passed in 2018 nearly doubled the standard deduction and eliminated or restricted many itemized deductions in 2018 through 2025. As a result fewer taxpayers are itemizing on their returns. That might make doing taxes easier, but those who use the standard deduction may miss out on several popular tax breaks, including claiming a deduction for donations they make to a qualified charity. It also hurts those charities' bank accounts, if donors who were partially motivated by the tax break decide to no longer give.

Fortunately, there is a strategy that can keep both givers (at least those who are retirement age) and getters on course with charitable donations. Taxpayers age 70½ and older can use a qualified charitable distribution to donate up to \$100,000 annually directly from a traditional IRA to an eligible public charity without counting that amount as taxable income. Instead, it would count toward their required minimum distribution and reduce the taxable amount of their mandatory withdrawal.

### Some definitions:

**QCD** stands for Qualified Charitable Distribution, sometimes referred to as a charitable IRA rollover.

A Required Minimum Distribution (**RMD**) is the amount of money the owner of an individual retirement account (**IRA**) must withdraw from their plan during the year. RMDs now start in the year the owner turns 72 (previously it was 70½) and equal a prescribed fraction of the plan balance at the end of the previous year. The older the owner, the larger the fraction of the plan balance the owner must withdraw whether they need that money or not in that year.

So what do I need to know?

1. Each person can donate the full amount of his or her RMD, up to a maximum of \$100,000 annually.
2. You should work with your IRA custodian to correctly accomplish a QCD. The distribution must go straight from the IRA account to the charity, not through your bank account.
3. Be sure to inform your tax preparer that you did a QCD. It must be noted in your tax return to obtain the benefit.

4. It's permissible to use less than the full RMD for the charitable distribution. Generally there are not low limits on how much you can donate.
5. For a QCD to count toward your minimum annual IRA distribution, it must meet the same deadline as a normal distribution (usually Dec. 31.)
6. Timing matters. The first dollar out of an IRA is considered to be the RMD. So, if you take money out early in the year, that distribution would count toward your RMD and you could potentially lose the tax benefit of the QCD. Work with your financial planner or tax accountant.

#### **Other benefits:**

Since the tax reform arrived in 2018, QCDs have become more valuable than ever. Many taxpayers now take the standard deduction, eliminating the tax deduction for charitable gifts. QCDs add to the standard deduction by allowing the donations made from the IRA to be excluded from income. With a QCD, you get a tax break for your charitable contribution even if you are using the standard deduction.

Another benefit of a QCD is that the amount transferred from the IRA to the charity is not included in your adjusted gross income (AGI) for the year. By not including the distribution in AGI you can potentially avoid the loss of exemptions, deductions, credits and phase outs, AMT (alternative minimum tax), the 3.8% surtax on net investment income, and the increase in Social Security premiums for Medicare Part B and Part D.

#### **Close:**

If you're already 70½ but the QCD strategy is new to you, be sure to discuss your specific situation and any questions with a qualified tax professional. If you haven't turned 70½ yet, it's still worth having a conversation about how to prepare to take advantage of this strategy in the future.

For those who are charitably inclined and won't be able to itemize their deductions, a QCD can be a win-win: You get to satisfy your RMD and exclude income from your AGI, and the charities that are important to you (like JPC!!) will continue to benefit from your generosity.



## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS

### Senior Sunday Coming!

It won't be long until the high school and college seniors in our congregation will be graduating. If your child is a JPC member and will be graduating from high school or college this spring, please contact Jen McNamara in the church office so we can be sure that we don't miss anyone in our celebration on Senior Sunday. We are proud of all of our graduates!

### Calling all Cooks!

If you would like to help with meals for people recovering from sickness, for funeral receptions, or for church events, please call the church office and let Jen McNamara know that you would like to be added to Congregational Life's list of cooks. We are always looking for people who like to bake cookies or cakes or make casseroles and soups. We appreciate all our volunteers!

### Birthdays!

Congregational Life thinks that JPC has the best staff around, and we know that our church family agrees! Some of you have asked when the staff birthdays are, so here's a listing.

Pastor Casey- February 22  
April Bolick- March 29  
Tara Daniel- May 26  
Pastor Judy- July 1  
Jen McNamara- July 29  
Pastor Jay- September 13  
Sammie Braxton- October 24

Here's to a year of happy birthdays and good celebrations!



The love and best wishes sent to me on my 85th birthday by my caring church family via so many lovely cards, made me feel so loved and special. Bless your hearts for giving me that special feeling of being remembered with fondness.

-Barbara Auman





Last month we reminded you that Pastor Jay will be leaving for his well-earned sabbatical in mid-June. Here are three more reasons that a sabbatical is so important to a pastor and a congregation. The source is again the article by Ryan Landino on [www.sixtysecondpreacher.com](http://www.sixtysecondpreacher.com)

**LEADING SUDDEN ADAPTIVE CHANGES WITH TECHNICAL CHALLENGES:** On exceptionally short notice, this pandemic has required a plunge into new demands of adaptive and technical thinking, which require two very different kinds of headspaces. At the most simplistic, the “adaptive” are those challenges that we have never faced before that we need to create new solutions for on the fly which require listening, creativity, and coalition building. “Technical” challenges are those tasks that require specific expertise to work through, which requires training, resourcing, and the humility to refer. Your pastors have been expected to navigate a course through uncharted waters while figuring out how to do that very thing along the way. This often means doing the adaptive work of discerning what it means to be a community during a pandemic, while juggling the technical challenges of how to work a camera phone. For both adaptive and technical challenges, this means a lot of new learning, steep learning curves, and being in that uncomfortable space of the unknown. Even for those who understand these mechanics, this is hard work.

**DISRUPTION OF SPIRITUAL & SELF-CARE PRACTICES:** Many of us have different self-care mechanisms to help us connect with the divine and recharge our spiritual batteries. For some, it’s walks in the park, for others it’s quality time with family. For others, it’s going to a favorite coffee shop, working out at the gym, or going to the movie theater. Consider how the pandemic has disrupted so many of our beloved spiritual and self-care routines. For pastors to be able provide meaning and spiritual grounding through this pandemic, they need to be able to provide it for themselves first. This goes for the availability of Sabbath as well. Speaking of which...

**THE TOLL OF CONSTANT REMOTE AVAILABILITY:** When we have “regular” working hours, we have much clearer boundaries on when we focus our energies on our availability, and when we can lower our “on-call” attentiveness and give our brains the blissful rest of tuning out. Without consistent scheduling however, situated against the instant availability of a number of different technological means of communicating, this often translates into the expectation of instant access to each other far exceeding our old normal. This might look like text messages during what would otherwise be off-hours, and notifications interrupting our screens whether we are working or resting. Some of us took advantage of our driving work commutes to get ourselves in and out of working headspaces, and now we don’t have that buffer time anymore. Please don’t get me wrong—the issue is not the volume (continue contacting your pastor as you need!). The issue is the overlap, when it becomes hard to tell whether we are working from home or homing from work. Because our attention spans are always present for all things, whether parenting, taking care of bills, or taking a pastoral phone call, it can make it harder for a pastor to be fully present with any one thing. That’s exhausting.



### APRIL GOINGS-ON

April 5th we will start up our **Chicago fundraiser!** I will be in touch about the particulars!

### OFT EVENTS

Saturday, April 17th we will have our One Fun Thing event. This is a **combined** youth group event. We are going to the Griffin Dog Park! If you have a friendly pup, please bring him/her so he/she can run and join in on the fun! If you don't have a dog but love furry friends, please come to enjoy some tail-wagging fun times together!

OFT for **Sr. High on Friday, April 30th...** we will be having our first lock-in of 2021 here at church! It will start at 8:30 pm and go until 8:00 am Saturday morning (don't worry middle schoolers- you will get your lock-in next month!). We will have pizza and snacks, play games, and watch movies. Masks will be required but not when you are eating, when we are outside and distant, or sleeping (if you choose to sleep)!

### JPC YARD SALE

The annual Outreach Yard Sale is Thursday, April 22nd-Saturday, April 24th. Outreach needs volunteers to make this a success and we hope you will be able to help out! Let me know if you can help!

### MONTREAT

For those high schoolers that have signed up for our week of fellowship and fun, please remember that payment is due in full by April 11th. The cost is \$350. I am so excited for our trip together!

## EASTER EGG HUNT

We are having an Easter Egg Hunt for JPC kids, JPC Preschool families and friends on April 3 at 1:00 PM here at JPC! We are so excited to bring this fun event back to JPC! Due to COVID, we are not opening it up to the community this time around, but we know it will be tons of fun!

See you on Saturday, April 3rd!





### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Children's Sunday School will begin Sunday, April 11th from 10:05 AM to 11:00 AM and continue each Sunday through May 23rd. We will offer two classes. One will meet in the room next to the elevator in the Preschool wing and the other will be in the former "barn room." Grammie Sammie will be on hand to help children get to their classroom.

### **JPC EASTER PLAY!!**

The JPC Easter Play 2021 videos have been turned in to our film editor, Kirk Lesley! Be on the lookout for how to view the finished product with your family and friends over Easter! This play called "GOOD NEWS" has such an uplifting message for all! Thank you to the many participants willing to be recorded for this project during Covid times!

### **HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONAL BOOKS**

The Christian Education Committee of JPC has given families of elementary school children the devotional book, "You're Invited" to use with their family for Holy Week devotions on the Lord's Supper. The book is designed to be used with children who are at different places in their faith journeys - those considering participation in the Lord's supper, those who have already been participating in it, and those who want to learn more.

### **FROGS**

Our FROGS met March 16th and they recorded two scenes for the upcoming JPC Easter Play! Thank you to all our actors and actresses! The FROGS also helped the Outreach Committee with filling Easter bags with candy for Easter Food Boxes. They always love helping with service projects! FROGS will meet again in April.

**HAPPY EASTER!!!**



**Jamestown Presbyterian Church**  
**1804 Guilford College Road**  
**Jamestown NC 27282**

**Visit us on the Web**  
**[www.jamestownprez.org](http://www.jamestownprez.org)**

### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Dr. Jay Smith, Pastor**

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**Rev. Casey Riker, Associate Pastor**

jamestownpastorcasey@gmail.com

**Rev. Judy Fitchett, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care**

jbfitcett@gmail.com

**Mrs. Sammie Braxton, Children's Coordinator**

jpckids1@gmail.com

**Dr. Jon Brotherton, Director of Music Ministries**

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**Ms. Donna Brotherton, Director of Contemporary Music & Organist**

donna.brotherton@gmail.com

**Mr. Chris Henry, Assistant Director of Chancel Choir**

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**Mrs. Tara Daniel, Financial Secretary**

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**Mrs. Jen McNamara, Administrative Assistant**

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**Mrs. April Bolick, Director of Preschool**

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