

SACRED SPACE

A PUBLICATION OF SHALLOWFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Winter 2017



Shallowford Makes
MISSION a Priority



From the Pastor

POWER OF GOODNESS & GOD

Dear Friends,

As I prepare to begin my eighth year at Shallowford and our community celebrates its sixtieth year of ministry, I've been reflecting on what has changed and what has remained the same. These days, it seems that we are always responding to tragedy or reacting to bad news. The phrase, "in light of recent events," has become a cliché in our time, and the pace of life moves so quickly that the definition of "recent" needs an update.

As people joined in Christian community, we are called to respond to recent events with words and acts of faith and courage. We are called to be peacemakers in a time of violence and hatred. We are called to pursue righteousness in the midst of oppression. We are called to speak the truth in love. We are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God as we face the particular challenges of our time.

But followers of Jesus Christ are not captive to recent events. The stories we tell and the gospel we proclaim remind us that God is faithful in all circumstances. Even when the foundations of the earth shake and the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea, we are instructed to "be still and know" that God is God. This does not excuse us from acts of concrete compassion and embodied grace, but it does free us from despair and hopelessness.

Even as the world changes, the mission of the church is consistent. We are called to be God's people of hope and faith. In times of chaos and confusion, we are called to remember the sovereignty of God. In times of hatred and division, we are called to proclaim our unity in Christ and God's unconditional love for all. In times of deep need, we are called to reach out with compassion and care.

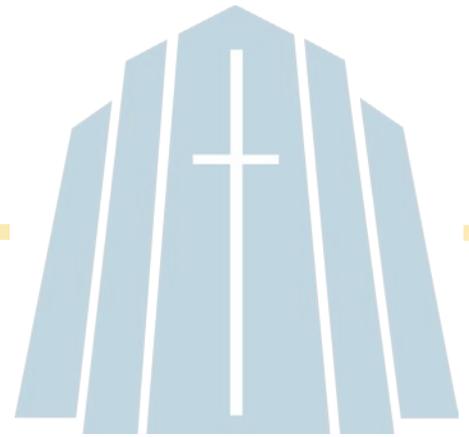
The Swiss theologian Emil Brunner wrote that, "The church exists by mission as a fire exists by burning." That is, mission is a definitive part of who we are as the people of God. In this edition of Sacred Space, you will read a great deal about the mission of Shallowford Presbyterian Church. What we do and how we do it has changed in the course of our six decades of ministry—the needs are different, the context has shifted, the world has changed. But the *why* behind Shallowford's mission has remained consistent over these many years. The church is called to mission. The church finds its purpose in mission. The church exists by mission.

See you in church...and in mission,

Rev. Christopher A. Henry

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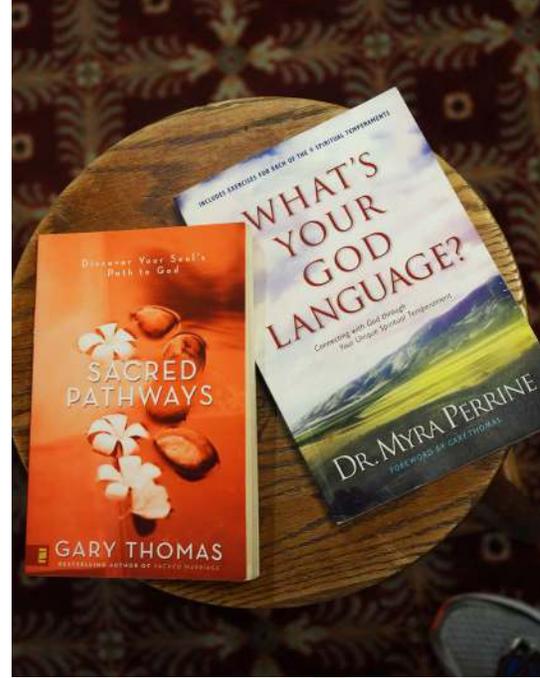
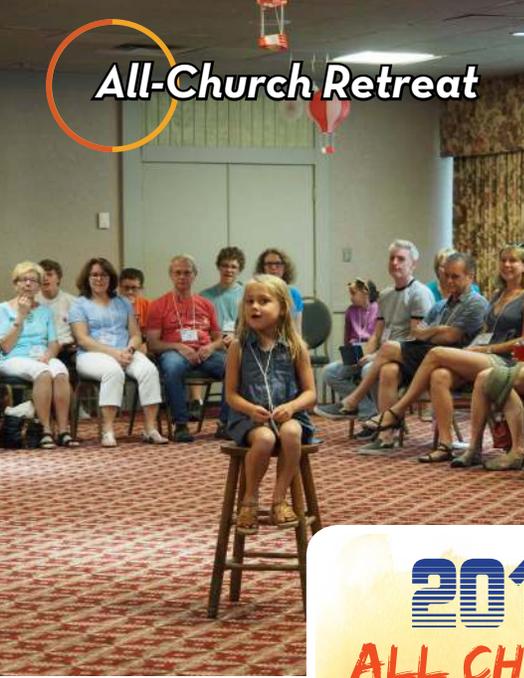
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FAITH IN ACTION

All-Church Retreat



2017 ALL CHURCH RETREAT

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

Shallowford Presbyterian members of all ages stepped out of their comfort zones to build new and lasting relationships at our annual All Church Retreat at Callaway Gardens over Labor Day Weekend! Special speaker Nancy Graham Ogne, current pastor and teaching elder at Hope Presbyterian Church in Orlando, Fla., elevated this year's programming and facilitated meaningful discussion in small groups. Nancy ignited our desires to learn more about our individual spiritual languages and captivated all retreat participants. Bradley Kibler, Director of Youth & Program Ministries, and her team have accepted the challenge to continue to provide new and innovative programming for our 2018 retreat!





THE Friendship

by Vaughn Dunnigan

LaAmistad, which simply means "The Friendship," is a community supported non-profit that works to empower low-income Latino students and their families toward achieving their ultimate potential. Founded in 2001 at Peachtree Presbyterian, LaAmistad provides a comprehensive programming structure that incorporates after-school tutoring, parent workshops, and English language courses. To do this, LaAmistad partners with local churches to run after-school tutoring programs for Latino children and courses for their parents. When LaAmistad approached Shallowford Presbyterian's Mission Committee about a possible partnership, we quickly became excited about the idea. Our partnership with LaAmistad began in the fall of 2016. Last year, the school bus brought 20 children from Hawthorne Elementary to Shallowford twice a week for tutoring, and this year, it brings almost 30 twice a week.

LaAmistad screens the children and administers the parent contracts (parents make certain commitments to have their children in the program). It also provides two paid on-site employees every Monday and Thursday. In exchange, Shallowford provides volunteer tutors to these eager young students. They work hard, despite the long day, and their parents are grateful for the help as many of the parents do not speak or write in English.

The LaAmistad program involves not just homework help, but also learning a "virtue" and a study skill of the week.

Most of our volunteers come from the Shallowford community, but not all. Some of our volunteers tutor once a week, while others tutor twice a week, but each tutor is with the same children throughout the school year. This continuity allows us to build relationships with the children and with their parents. In the words of one volunteer, tutoring is "the highlight of my week." I am pretty sure that is the case for most of us.

The relationship building aspect of the program came to the forefront this past summer. One of our students and her family suffered an apartment fire. They were safe, but their belongings were destroyed. Associate Pastor Catherine Foster, sent an email to our LaAmistad volunteers and within a week, the family had a fully furnished apartment (including beds and all kitchen items) and gently used clothing in everyone's size. Bringing the whole relationship aspect full circle, our "movers" included four young men who attended SPC's Vacation Bible School when they were our student's age.

How and where we practice charity is a topic of much discussion in the mission world today. There is a push to make it much more bottom up, rather than top down, and to make it more community-centered. LaAmistad allows us to follow both of those models. Only students who want to enroll can be in the program (and there is currently a waiting list at

Hawthorne), and they can leave at any time. Moreover, our students and their parents are our neighbors. So from that perspective, LaAmistad is a "worthy" mission. But it is so much more. Working with these children is an act of joy.

If you would like to get involved in this meaningful ministry, contact Vaughn Dunnigan at evdunnigan@gmail.com.





SHALLOWFORD Survivors

by Dale Glendening & Rev. Robby Carroll

Among the many Shallowford Presbyterian Church missions and programs, perhaps one of the most meaningful is Shallowford Survivors, a program that literally involves life and death.

THE CARETAKER

When diagnosis of “dementia” is converted to probable “Alzheimer’s Disease”, the caretakers and victims alike become passengers on an emotional roller coaster. Knowledge and understanding of the typical course of Alzheimer’s shakes the core of emotions, challenges faith and courage, and transforms both the victim and caretaker. As Alzheimer’s progresses and the victim’s symptoms increase in numbers, frequency and duration emotions such as optimism, calm and equanimity may be replaced with emotions such as fear, dread, anxiety and pessimism. Hopelessness, sorrow and aloneness become a prevailing reality. Family and friends who are caretakers contemplate and anticipate the ultimate consequences of Alzheimer’s: an irreversible continuum of life wasting away - the inevitable consequence of the inability to function independently and promise of death eventually. Thanks to “Shallowford Survivors”, a support group comprised of family and friends who abide with and or care for Alzheimer’s victims, people who are impacted by the consequences of this disease will not be alone through this profound, life-changing event. Those participating members of the support group are fellow travelers who weave a loving safety net and construct a sanctuary that supports each other and provides a path to light through the dark journey. Shallowford Survivors is a source of consoling empathy within a loving community that transforms a sense of isolation and fear into courage and strength; that replaces anger with reconciling acceptance; that displaces despondency with hope and sadness with joy. This Alzheimer’s support ministry offers an outlet for caretaker counseling, peer support, social engagement and bonding.

THE DISEASE

Alzheimer’s Disease is an irreversible, progressive brain disorder. Its stages result in a loss of thinking, remembering and reasoning skills that interfere with a person’s daily life and common activities. This disease is the most common cause of dementia in older adults. Estimates are that Alzheimer’s affects more than five million Americans with thousands more living with related dementia disorders. Although dementia is more common as people grow older, Alzheimer’s related dementia is not a normal part of aging. There is no one test available to determine whether a person has Alzheimer’s; a positive diagnosis can only result from a post-mortem examination of brain tissue. The disease is diagnosed by ruling out all other possible conditions that may cause memory loss. The time from initial diagnosis to death varies; it may be as little as 3 to 4 years for some people older than 80 years of age and may exist longer than 10 years or more for younger people. The disease slowly destroys cognitive ability - memory and thinking skills - and ultimately causes an inability to physically and mentally perform the simplest tasks such as dressing, eating and basic hygiene as well as other non-essential activities of daily living. Daunting responsibilities that fall on care takers as the disease progresses include: scheduling and presenting for medical appointments; ensuring medication compliance; creating and sustaining a nursing environment within a home; providing assistance with personal hygiene; providing a proper diet, sufficient rest and sleep, exercise and entertainment; physically assisting the victim in all aspects of daily living. Not all Alzheimer victims manifest the same symptoms at the same times. While there are techniques for managing symptoms as the disease advances through three distinct stages, there is no cure at this time for this disease.

Per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data, in 2015 over 93,500 deaths across all 50 states and the District of Columbia occurred due to Alzheimer's disease ranking it as the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. Before the Alzheimer's victim dies, he is robbed of his identity by mental incapacitation. Dare one say that death is a blessing since an acceptable quality of life has vanished?

THE GROUP HISTORY

In 1996, in response to a plea by Margaret McGarity, a Shallowford Presbyterian Church member, Pastor Gray Norsworthy initiated creation of a support group for family and friends of Alzheimer's victims. In 2003, Rev. Robert ("Robby") L. Carroll, Jr., Parish Associate for Congregational Care, assumed leadership of the Alzheimer's support program. Pastor Robby's training and experience in pastoral counseling and group dynamics, and his infectious optimism, have enabled him to produce a strong framework for the ministry and significantly contribute to its success.

At the program's inception, there were seven members, however over the years the size of the group has increased. By most recent estimates, attendance at weekly meetings average 25 to 35 participants. Over 20 years, the outreach, influence and support of this program have touched the lives of innumerable people. The survivors' group practices the church's tenet of being a hospitable community whose ministry is open to all without any required membership or affiliation with the church. All who participate are welcome.

Pastor Robby explains that although the dynamics of group interaction have morphed over the years, the objective of the meetings has remained constant: to provide a forum, a sanctuary, that promotes community among family and friends of Alzheimer's victims through shared stories. Robby has drawn from his diverse life experiences, education and thoughts of others to establish a model for interaction. Among others, Robby cites Parker Palmer who embraces the concept of an inner teacher to whom one should listen for guidance to life. Mr. Palmer has written, "The soul speaks its truth only under quiet, inviting, and trustworthy conditions." The model Robby promotes provides a sanctuary for Alzheimer's caretakers; there is a space where and time when people may gather to share their thoughts, questions and answer, and emotions interact with other participants through stories and silence.

In typical meetings, participants listen in respectful silent as other participants share their stories. These stories foster empathy among participants and enable participants to gain individual strength and resolve distilled from the collective strength and resolve of the group. Robby extols the individual and collective traits of participants whom he characterizes as courageous, kind, loving and supportive of others as they travel similar paths as caretakers. Robby strongly embraces and shares the belief that caretakers need to properly care for themselves in order to successfully care for loved ones.

Communication is an important and key component in group functioning. Member Ann King diligently maintains records and shares information on topics relevant to Alzheimer's such as research, treatment and care. Communicating with each other, outside of meetings, strengthens the knots that bind members to one another.

Pastor Chris Henry praises the long-term ministry of the Alzheimer's support group that holds its meetings in space provided by the church. Chris notes that the group is an important community that is "authentic" in its ministry and valuable to both those people within and without the Shallowford

congregation. He shares his pride in and appreciation for group members whose participation is deeply important to those in need. Lives are sustained, comforted and transformed through the group's support activity characterized by unity, kindness, compassion, hospitality and grace.

THE PARTICIPANTS SPEAK

Responding to an invitation to share, group members frequently mentioned the benefit of participants' willingness and openness to share stories that are personal, sensitive and revealing. There are common threads in every story that resonate with participants reinforcing assurance that they are not alone on their journey. These candid testimonies at meetings, often presented by overcoming reservation, reflect trusting friendships and bonding developed among participants. Some group members refer to the willingness to share such personal stories as "Indispensable Alzheimer's Connections" (IDCs).

When the group meets, there is a palpable gratitude that can be observed and felt despite the heavy weight born by participants. Members empathize with the difficulties and emotions of their...

SHALLOWFORD SURVIVORS continued on page 8.



SHALLOWFORD SURVIVORS

(contd.)...fellow travelers and in some measure claim a stake of ownership in their friends' travails. There is no criticism or rejection by participants, only understanding and empowerment. Before, after and during these meetings, it is not unusual for hugs to be exchanged, touching with a pat on the hand, tears shared, and a smile reflecting compassion and unconditional support.

Participants learn to appreciate listening in silence allowing other participants to share their stories – stories that buttress a reality that they are not alone on their journey. There is no manifest judgment about disclosed revelations. Participants not only hear about embarrassing episodes, but also heart-tugging events that challenge courage, strength and resolve to continue caring for a victim in their charge. They hear of problems and solutions experienced by others that they may also be experiencing. The worth of this discourse is clear and invaluable as it promotes and reinforces self-examination, better understanding of one's own feelings, and strength, courage and hope for the days to come.

HOPE GOING FORWARD

Our life's journey involves many winding turns but need not be traveled alone. Helen Keller said, "A bend in the road is not the end of the road....unless you fail to make the turn." Alzheimer's caretakers negotiate life-changing turns and make decisions that become more difficult throughout the course of the victim's disease. Shallowford Survivors, a remarkably valiant support group, provides a precious ministry of grace that makes a caretaker's journey easier.

Mission COMES TO SHALLOWFORD!

by Bob Chambless & Stephen Caldwell

HELP NEEDED! SHALLOWFORD SPONSORS A REFUGEE FAMILY

The Mission Forward Fund Committee awarded a 2017 grant to Bob Chambless and Steven Caldwell's application to sponsor a refugee family. In partnership with New American Pathways, Shallowford will help these refugees adjust and become self-sufficient in their home.

During the three to six month commitment, our congregation will have many opportunities to become involved with our new family:

- Collect furniture and household items to set up an apartment
- Stock the pantry with culturally appropriate foods
- Greet the family at the airport or at their apartment upon arrival
- Provide a hot meal upon arrival
- Assist with providing appropriate seasonal clothing
- Help with transportation to appointments
- Reinforce budget mindfulness and financial literacy
- Review MARTA orientation and help with transportation
- Help family develop English skills with at-home materials provided
- Attend cultural orientation with family
- Use creativity to teach the family about their new community

Refugee families have waited a long time to be admitted to the United States often having been in camps for years. The process for admission is rigorous, thorough, and takes two to three years to be accepted. Eighty-eight percent of all refugee families are completely independent within six months after arrival!

We will partner with New American Pathways, a refugee resettlement agency and affiliate of Church World Service. We are excited to unite with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance who participates in the ministry of refugee resettlement in cooperation with Church World Service.

If you would like to help with resettling our family, please contact Catherine Foster (cfoster@shallowford.org).

I was a stranger and you took me in. -Matthew 25:35

THE ABILITY TO Give Back

by Bill Crews & Nancy Phillimore

We are excited to announce the implementation of Shallowford's new Mission Forward Fund ("The Fund"). The Fund was approved by the Session and will combine the Mission Tithe from the 2014 'Rooted in Faith Forward in Hope' Capital Campaign and the Support and Endowment Funds for Special Ministries and Mission and Benevolence Funds.

The Fund will support special opportunities for Shallowford Presbyterian Church to join in God's mission. Opportunities may include supporting Shallowford's participation in mission, the program cost of a specific mission project, or the capital cost of a mission project. Projects are considered time-limited, with a specific, tangible outcome that moves the mission of an organization forward.

To ensure an endowment component within The Fund, a maximum of 5% of the prior year-end balance will be available for the support of missions annually (approximately \$20,000 annually). A standing committee will adjudicate grant applications to The Fund on an 'as needed' or rolling basis after January 1 but no later than September 1 for each calendar year.

Members of the committee shall include: one member each from the Mission, Support & Endowment, and Finance Committees (to be elected annually by those committees, with no term of service exceeding three years); the active elders on the Mission Committee; the Associate Pastor for Mission (Ex-Officio); and others serving at the chair's discretion.

Requests that meet the following criteria will receive priority consideration for potential funding:

- Mission is faith-based and Christ-centered
- Mission reflects the contemporary best practices of the non-profit sector including goals, need identification and support, and evaluation
- Mission presents the possibility to partner with other churches and organizations and/or offers multiple opportunities for Shallowford members to participate
- Mission will have a large breadth or depth of assistance offered and neighbors served
- Mission complements or extends Shallowford's current mission involvement

If you know of a special need/mission project opportunity that meets these criteria, please contact Catherine Foster (cfoster@shallowford.org).



A Navajo RESERVATION EXPERIENCE

No phones. No iPads. But instead a life-altering seven-day experience in Bisti, New Mexico on a Navajo Reservation with 50 dedicated Shallowford youth. This is the type of journey Bradley Kibler, Director of Youth & Programs, knew would leave a lasting impact on these teens. They built new relationships, deepened

their faith in God, and lived each day in the present. A warm and gracious *Thank You* to Shallowford for making this experience possible due to the generosity of the church. We're excited to respond in faith in Summer 2018 as we head to Port Arthur, Texas for hurricane relief work.



HEAR FROM THE MISSIONARIES THEMSELVES:

THE IMPORTANCE OF SERVING

"On our last night in New Mexico, we sat around in a circle and Bradley asked us what we got out of the trip. For me, I've learned how lucky I am to have so many luxuries in life. This experience connected me closer to God and I know now that I am meant to serve others. My desire to carry out this calling and spread the word of the Lord to our community is stronger than ever."

- CeCe Walker, 7th grade

GRATITUDE & EXCITEMENT FOR SPC

"This summer's youth mission trip to New Mexico represented an opportunity for our youth to act on faith, and to engage with what it means to serve with generosity and humility, regardless of the conditions.

Throughout the week I was inspired by the connections that we were forging both with each other and with the homeowner, Ernest, and his family. On the last day at our worksite, Ernest led us on a hike through the desert terrain surrounding his home. We navigated mesas and canyons and celebrated the good fortune of being able to experience it together. Before leaving, we signed our names in his home - an attempt to reinforce our connection one last time.

As I reflect on the trip, I am thankful for my time with Ernest and our Shallowford youth, I am proud to have been part of such a hard-working team, and I am excited to be part of a church community that is willing to make this kind of investment."

- Jordan Stringer, Small Group Leader & Chaperone

BEING PRESENT MATTERS

"The city girl within me was skeptical of the shower trailers, mess kits, sleeping bags and living without my phone for an entire week. *Who does that?!* However, I was pleasantly surprised and found myself quickly deepening pre-existing friendships, as well as developing new ones. I am thankful for this experience, for it taught me the importance of being present in my day-to-day life."

- Abby Thien, 12th Grade



"AWAKENING"

Eighty-two Chapel Choir singers, ranging from sixth to twelfth grade, took to the road this past June performing a variety of music to churches in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, and Georgia. "Awakening", as told by the youth singers, explored how people awaken to different aspects of faith. Each Chapel Choir member logged 72 hours of rehearsal prior to the nationwide tour – a tour that has been a Shallowford tradition for over 30 years!



Emily Floyd, Shallowford's Director of Music Ministries, shares her appreciation: "The life experience, the building of community and spiritual enrichment that students experience on tour are of equal value to the music education and artistic excellence gained in a concert tour. I love seeing our singers develop pride in singing with meaning and expression. These memories and friendships will last a lifetime!"



Living THE SHALLOWFORD WAY

Each week, members of the Shallowford family worship in our sacred spaces, gather for churchwide events and programs, and volunteer to help others. Take a look at some of our more recent highlights from a few activities in 2017. Find us on Facebook (*Shallowford Presbyterian Church*) for a more in-depth look into our fun and fellowship!



MAKING AN Impact

Narrated by: Bob Chambless / Written By: Annie Blissit

Annie Blissit recently coordinated two mission trips to Nicaragua. Throughout her high school years Annie was actively involved in Shallowford's youth, Chapel Choir and mission programs. At the time, Bob Chambless was Shallowford's Director of Music Ministries. The following is Annie's description of her mission work in Nicaragua.



Known as the "land of lakes and volcanoes", Nicaragua has abundant sources of freshwater, yet little of it is safe to drink or readily accessible. The devastation of wars and natural disasters, combined with contamination from decades of mining and agricultural activities has left water sources polluted and hazardous to the locals' health. Tucked away in the Nicaraguan rainforest, the remote river village of Kansas City was once home to an American-owned banana plantation. Although an abundance of needs plague this remote, marginalized community, their most fundamental need is safe drinking water. I first visited this village in May of 2016 to build a 90-foot pedestrian footbridge in the community to provide a safe crossing for villagers, especially during the rainy season. Toward the end of the trip, we learned the village was experiencing water contamination issues. We did preliminary testing but without the supplies we needed to adequately test their water.

This past March I returned equipped with tools and supplies needed to adequately test the water and sampled the area villages' deep wells, hand dug artisan wells and rain barrels. We coordinated with the University of Managua to analyze the test results, specifically the levels of metals and bacteria found in the water. As expected, we discovered that the village's water was contaminated, most sources containing bacteria and some of the drilled wells containing levels of lead, copper, iron and manganese. Now that we are back in the U.S., we are working to develop treatment options that will be sustainable, allowing villagers to easily manage their water sources. The local village leaders are taking ownership of the clean water initiative, working to increase education about safe sanitation and hygiene practices. This is as much an empowerment project as it is a clean water project.

As a water resources engineer, I spend time thinking about water, analyzing large amounts of data and determining the best solution for communities. This small village challenged me to take my training to a remote, unfamiliar setting where I gained invaluable experience working with little electricity and communicating in Spanish - something I don't experience in the field or at a desk in Georgia. Clean water can change lives and witnessing the impact of clean water in Nicaragua firsthand has certainly changed mine.

Annie graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in 2012 and since has gained national recognition for her work in Water Resources. She is employed by Gresham, Smith and Partners, a leading multi-discipline design and consulting firm for the built environment and is pursuing a master's degree from Georgia Tech. Just last month the Georgia Section of ASCE named her 2017 Young Civil Engineer of the Year, following an award as Engineering News Record Southeast Top Young for 2017.



TOP: Annie works with the locals to set a bridge support on her first trip to Nicaragua. BOTTOM: Annie takes samples from a deep well.



Last June *The Forum* celebrated its first anniversary at the home of B.J. and Barton McMillan with good food and fellowship!

Like the ancient Roman Forum, *The Forum* Sunday school class is a space where folks wander in and out, discuss interesting ideas and meet new people. During the past year, the class discussed the books Celtic Spirituality, The Shack, and the Letter of James along with a diverse range of subjects including "dying well". A rotating line-up of ordained and lay leaders have shared their passions and expertise with the group.

To kick off the 2017-18 school year, *The Forum* united with neighboring classes *F3*, *Common Ground*, and *Faith Seeking Understanding* for a six-week "choose your own adventure." Many enjoyed Don and Julie Burkhard's "Love to Stay" workshop focused on faith and relationships. Others engaged Ruth O'Toole and Catherine Foster's "Sunday Asylum" conversation about the difference between American culture and church culture. *The Forum* consists of mostly empty nesters, and its members reported that they loved the opportunity to get to know some of the younger Sunday School classes at Shallowford.

Last October *The Forum* returned to its normal spot in Room 309 to embark on a book study of *Same Kind of Different as Me* led by Sue Ellen Williams. More exciting offerings are in the works, and it promises to be an interesting and fun year for Shallowford's new class. All are welcome!

PROUD NEW Citizen

by John Britt

On August 7th, at approximately 9:37 AM, Nina Blinson became a citizen of the United States of America. Seventeen members of the Shallowford family were present to help the Blinson Family celebrate this momentous occasion. Here is Nina's story:

After meeting online and having months of computer and phone conversation, Dwight flew to St. Petersburg, Russia, to meet Nina in person. During that trip, he also met Nina's two daughters, Anna and Katya.

Nina had been widowed for seven years and had recently retired from a career in metallurgy and accounting areas. Nina flew to the USA later that year and met Dwight's mother and other relatives. As Dwight describes it, "Neither my mother nor Nina could understand each other, but an instant bond developed between them."

Dwight and Nina were married in North Carolina in October 2006. The two spent months traveling for Dwight's job as a long-haul driver for a transport company. Nina was able to see 22 different states during that time and spent time learning and perfecting her English. They then moved to North Carolina to look after Dwight's mom.

In February 2008, they returned to Atlanta and became part of the Shallowford community. Nina began courses in English as a Second Language and obtained her GED. Her love of children (especially her kids and grandkids) moved Nina to go to college and earn a certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education.

Nina and Dwight are active members of the *Pairs & Spares* Sunday School class. They have ingrained themselves in the life of our faith community. We love it in our class on Sunday morning when everyone gets a hug and warm welcome from Nina!

Nina, we are so glad that Dwight found you...and that you found us!



WRAPPED IN *Love*

by Joyce Burnett

The Prayer Shawl Ministry reached out yet again to one of God's children and touched an entire family. Meet Dwayne, a wonderful nine-year-old boy who loves music and singing, his friends and family, and has a magnetic smile. He has many challenges including not being able to sit or hold his head up on his own, walk, or even talk.

Prior to Dwayne's surgery, I requested a prayer shawl. He was due for a double hip replacement and needed repair work done on his legs. Denise Webber, who is in charge of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, knew the right questions to ask, those specific to Dwayne's personality. I asked for something red or yellow since he has a cortical visual impairment making these colors the easiest for him to see. With no shawls that fit this particular description, Denise purchased the yarn immediately and made the shawl in just five days, a personal record for her.

His family was so very touched by God's love as demonstrated by the prayer shawl. When Dwayne was being taken to surgery, his parents were not able to accompany him.

His mom asked to have him wrapped in the shawl, and the surgical staff made that happen. **Dwayne is doing very well. Thank you to all who participate in this ministry. God's love is spread far and wide.**



SHALLOWFORD *Staff*



Isaac Toney

Position:

Seminary & Youth Intern

Roles & Responsibilities:

I joined the staff in April (2017). My weekly responsibilities include youth group programming, teaching Sunday School and

assisting with Friday morning breakfast. So far, I've learned different ministry skills in all areas of the church. I've also led Wednesday morning Bible studies, various small groups, and have had many opportunities to lead Sunday worship.

Tell us about your passion for congregational work:

Once ordained, my goal is to eventually lead a congregation. I first felt called to ministry while studying issues around social justice and peace-building initiatives. Ordination offers me the opportunity to approach these issues from within an established community of believers. I think the church should and will continue to play a crucial role in local community dialogue, and I hope to be a part of that!



Danielle Lawn

Position:

Education & Program Assistant

Roles & Responsibilities:

I started working at Shallowford in November of 2016. My role is to support the ministries of Youth and Programs, Children, Mission

and Discipleship. I assist with major events and programs such as Wednesday Evenings, the All-Church Retreat, and Vacation Bible School. I hope to provide staff members with the support they need so they may focus on their ministries!

Tell us a little about your family outside of work:

My family has been a Shallowford Presbyterian School family for six years now! My daughter, Morgan, is a second grader, and my son, Zach, is in Pre-K. My husband Matt and I are involved parents and love to volunteer our time helping the school. When I'm not on Shallowford's campus I like to spend time with my family (including our two dogs), cooking, traveling, and going to see live music with my husband and friends.

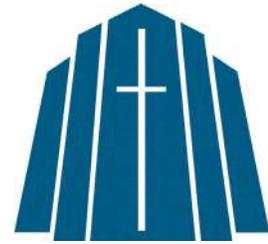
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Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor

Rev. Christopher A. Henry
Rev. Catherine E. Foster

Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday School Hour

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.



Connect

with us through social media!



Shallowford Presbyterian Church



@ShallowfordPC

Lent & Holy Week 2018

FEBRUARY

14 - Ash Wednesday

MARCH

25 - Palm Sunday
29 - Maundy Thursday
30 - Good Friday

APRIL

1 - Easter Sunday
- 7 am Sunrise Service
- 8:45 & 11 am Worship

You're Invited to...
SHALLOWFORD'S

60th

Celebration Weekend

{ 8.3.18 - 8.5.18 }

