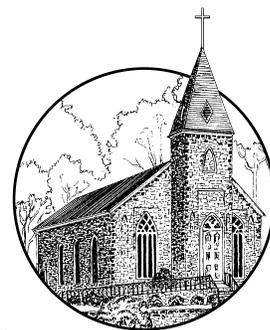


ST. MATTHEW'S

LIFE



NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH, NC

OCTOBER 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Never before have I been so proud of my parish. In a time of pandemic, when ordinary parish life remains limited, we are expanding on many fronts. We are training up laity for spiritual leadership across the parish. We are signing up for prayer sessions, Bible studies, and formation groups, and Kim has new youth and family ministries up and running for 2020-21. We are expanding our sense of good stewardship beyond financial pledging to include the giving of self in time, talent and prayer. We are working hard with our past involvement in the brutality of slavery, and how the church supported this, thus massively distorting the meaning of the Gospel. We are busy unpacking that and what it means for us now. We are welcoming newcomers. We are helping to feed the poor and keep a roof over people's heads. We are listening more deeply to the black parishes in northern Orange County. We are finding ways to enjoy each other in fellowship.

...and we are letting God grow us in all these ways **without even having the heart of parish life — the Sunday Eucharist — to support us.** Just imagine, my friends, what it will be like when that heart comes back online and starts pushing the nourishing blood of fellowship and Eucharistic worship through our life again. Our growth now is tenuous because the blood flow is weak, but — to continue the metaphor — just imagine what will happen when the new veins and arteries we are growing now are supported by Sunday Worship again. As Jesus comes to Hillsborough, he invites each human being here to know that they are secure in the love of God, that they are beloved daughters and sons of God, that their whole being with all their suffering and longing is known and held in God. God is intimate; God has us. If Jesus invites us assiduously into relationship with himself it is only so that we can grow in this awareness of ourselves as God's Beloved, eternally safe in the Creator's knowledge care. This is what we mean when we call Jesus *Savior*.

But we also call Jesus *Lord* — and this means that we accept his leadership and teaching as authoritative for ourselves. Our allegiance belongs to him. This means a reversal of priorities so profound that Christians have symbolized belonging to Jesus as a process of death and resurrection — dying to their entire old way of being a self and finding meaning and worth in order to be raised into a whole new of being a self and finding meaning and worth. And the principal way that this new self happens in our lives in Jesus is that we find ourselves in a community of people quite different from ourselves, sometimes undesirable to our old selves. And we find in this community a valuing of human dignity quite radical. It's based on *nothing* that the world uses to establish who should be valued and given esteem. The weak, the poor, the marginalized, the less capable have equal esteem in Jesus' community because Jesus wants them there in the exact same way Jesus wants the powerful there. And we are all there on totally equal terms.

It's helpful to remember that when the Roman Governors in the 3rd Century demanded from a deacon named Lawrence the treasures of the church — meaning the gold chalices — Lawrence came back and “he presented the indigent, the crippled, the blind, and the suffering, and declared that these were the true treasures of the Church.” Indeed. He got martyred for that.

Continued on the next page

Jesus is Lord and Savior. Jesus is opening our eyes to the possibility of being in Orange County a new way: a community of people gathered around him in gratitude for being saved, held in God, and exploring a whole new way of being human together. We go on with our ordinary lives as parents, employees, neighbors – but there is a new light, a joy, a great welcome, shining at the heart of all that we do. To God be the Glory. Faithfully,

Robert Fruehwirth

The Annual Giving Campaign
Abiding in Faith, Acting with Hope, Anchored by Love

My how time flies; the Annual Campaign Season is upon us!! Our Annual Stewardship Campaign begins this year on October 4 and concludes on November 1. Your personal pledge packets will be mailed to you directly this year. Included in your packet is your Pledge Form and detailed information about the campaign, finances, and programs here at St. Matthew's. Your responses are vital to financial planning for the many church programs, staffing needs, and outreach that enable the gifts St. Matthew's brings to us and to the community around us as we reflect on the year's theme: Abiding in Faith, Acting with Hope, Anchored by Love.

This year, the annual campaign reaches beyond the financial aspects of holistic stewardship. The wider mission of stewardship reflects how we care for all the gifts of our lives: our daily lives of faith, the actions that we will take which reflect our hopeful vision and the love we all feel for our parish, which anchors us to God and to each other. Therefore, this year we are also including information about non-financial pledges you can make to St. Matthew's in the pledge packet. We are a parish of many talents, and we offer you the opportunity to share your time and talent with us, as well as treasure.

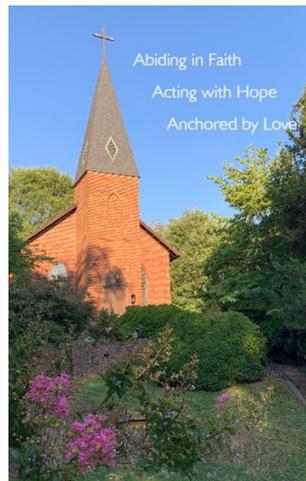
Our Pledge Goal for the upcoming year is \$425,000, which is the same as last year's goal. In deciding to keep the goal the same we considered the challenges of this year and next, as well as the fact that we usually exceed our goals. Pledge forms are due by November 1, and can be returned by mail, filled out online, or dropped off to the church office. If you have questions, please reach out to Elizabeth Hays, Allison Bass, or any member of the Vestry.

Three October Sunday Forums will explore different aspects of Holistic Stewardship:

- October 4: Acting with Hope: Elizabeth Hays and Allison Bass
- October 11: Abiding in Faith: Robert Fruehwirth
- October 18: Anchored by Love: Dorothy Wood, "Financial Statement of Mission 2021"

Please join us as we begin this new season of Faith, Hope, and Love with heartfelt gratitude for the gifts of our lives and our parish.

-Elizabeth Hays, Vestry Liaison for Stewardship, and
-Allison Bass, 2021 Annual Giving Chair



Pledge to the 2021 Operating Budget of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code. I/we wish to contribute to the operating budget with which St. Matthew's will make manifest the Holy Spirit through its administration, programs, and outreach. My/our total Pledge for 2021 will be \$ _____, by payments of \$ _____ per _____ Week _____ Month _____ Quarter _____ Year. Signature: _____ Date: _____

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN 2020-2021 Pledge of Time and Talent | Household Pledge Form. Household or family name: _____ Best way to contact: _____ In the coming year, we would like to pledge our time and talent at St. Matthew's by becoming newly involved in one or more of the ministry areas below. Children and Youth Formation (Sunday School, Youth Group) Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Prayer, Adult Spiritual Formation, Spirituality Groups, Caring Groups Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Social Ministries, Outreach and Service (OCIM, Habitat, and more) Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Social Justice and Racial Equity Work (Justice United, RJRC) Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Choir, music and/or Faith and the Arts (indicate one or both) Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ All things Technological (Video creation, Livestream, Zoom) Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Other: _____ Person(s) pledging involvement: _____ Thank you! Your commitment to serve in these areas will be passed on to the lay leaders and clergy they will be contacting you directly!

A Box Full of **fesT**

Over these past months, many of you have wondered about **fesT** this year. Because of Covid, we're not able to have **fesT** as we have known and loved it. But that doesn't mean we can't be creative and think outside the box! This year we're doing just that- thinking outside the box.

The vision is to create boxes stuffed full of handcrafted items and home baked goodies that then would be sold for a set price, ordered ahead of time. What's inside the box would be a surprise for whoever purchases one. But that's part of the fun! Boxes could be purchased for oneself; they could be given as a gift to someone else in the parish; you could even purchase a **fesT** box to send to someone far away.

But in order to make them, we need your help. We need creative "makers and bakers" of any kind to sign up to make "treasures" to go in the box. The only requirement is that they be made in increments of ten (ideally), be homemade with love, and fit in a 16"L 16"W x 5"H box. **Please no donations of store bought items - only handmade.**

You don't have to be an accomplished artist or bakerthere are worlds of creative possibilities out there.....Think small bags of cookies, ornaments, crocheted or knitted items, canned goods, slices of cake, origami, homemade paper cards or stationery, pottery votive holders, name cards for gifts, homemade wrapping paper.....let your imagination run wild. Again, the only requirement is that it be homemade, small, and in increments of ten. Which will allow us to plan out how many boxes we can make.

If you can help, [please sign up here by October 15](#) so we know what would be available to go in the boxes. The more people who sign up, the more boxes we can make and sell and the more fun we'll have!

All proceeds from our **fesT**-ive Surprise boxes will go towards supporting local outreach in Orange County.

With thanks! *Phyllis Wright, Kim Powell, and Lisa Frost-Philips*

P.S. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have.



Christian Formation

Faith Formation for the St. Matthew's Family: October 4



Faith Formation for the St. Matthew's Family (All ages) continues this year with monthly intergenerational programming on the Zoom Worship Channel following Sunday Morning Prayer. We hope that all members of our parish family-not simply those with young children-will consider joining us for worship.

On October 4th at 11am, all are welcome to attend our Virtual Animal Blessing and Celebration of St. Francis' Feast Day. Bring your beloved pets to the Zoom Formation Channel and be sure to pick up a small jar of Holy Water, available Friday, October 2, and Saturday, October 3, in a basket outside the Hayden Building.

Children

Join us at 10:15am on the Zoom Formation Channel for Formation Hour.

- October 4th— St. Francis' Feast Day (will be offered 11am instead of 10:15am)
- October 11th— Virtual Growing in Christ led by *Angela Jones* and *Mitch Moehring*
- October 18th— Virtual Godly Play led by *Aurora Toennisson*
- October 25th— Faith at Home: Reflecting on Creation (all children)

**A SECOND
AGAPE BREAD
SERVICE
OCTOBER 11**

**ORDER YOUR BREAD
BY CALLING OR
EMAILING MARY**

Register now to receive a kit of Faith at Home materials for November and December! You will receive crafts, games, Bible stories, a weekly devotional, and other activities to explore with your household at your own pace each month. These kits are designed to be simple and intergenerational with a different theme each month. November's Theme is Saints and December's Theme is Advent at Home.

Subscribe to our children's formation newsletter for more up to date information throughout the month! Questions? Email Kim at kim@stmatthewshillsborough.org

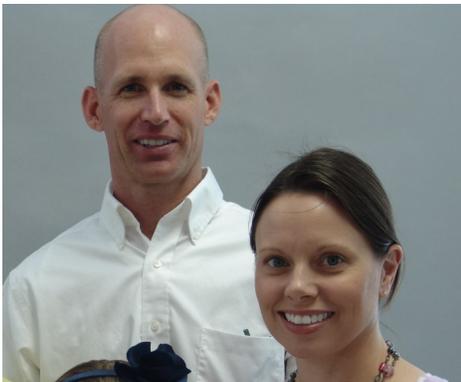
Youth Group New Meeting Time

We are trying out a new time for youth group this Fall. Join us 4:00pm-5:00pm on the Zoom Formation Channel biweekly for youth group. Confirmation class will meet on the alternating weeks at the same time. See the weekly updates for the zoom information.

- October 4th— Confirmation
- October 11th— Youth Group
- October 18th— Confirmation Class
- October 25th— Youth Group

Subscribe to our youth formation updates for more up to date information throughout the month!

Questions? Email Kim at kim@stmatthewshillsborough.org



Thank You to Jeff & Kelly Hopper

Many thanks to *Jeff and Kelly Hopper* who, after more than two decades involvement in education at St. Matthew's, are stepping down from leadership in children and youth formation. They are immensely grateful for their experience in leading children and youth in faith formation and are ready to pass the baton to new parents.

They've found their time in leadership incredibly formative for their own faith journey, their growth in the scriptures and Episcopal tradition, and a inviting a deeper sense of belonging within the St. Matthew's community. The formation programs at St. Matthew's are intended to be self-sustaining programs. Parent involvement and investment is what makes these programs thrive. As the Hoppers move on from their roles in children and youth formation, they strongly encourage other parents to jump in with both feet, as the enduring presence of parents is the backbone to a true faith formation experience for young people. We are incredibly grateful for Jeff and Kelly's leadership, service, and creativity in faith formation for young people at St. Matthew's.

Thank you!! ~*Kim Powell*

When Everything Changes

My life changed in mid-March of this year, as did everyone else's. We all were faced with how to keep as many things going as before. But we also tried to adjust our lives, learn new technology, take on new tasks, and dispense with routines we took for granted. Me - I grumbled a lot. I balked at tackling any of the new technologies facing me for virtual choir. I asked for help but not in the form it came. I refrained from asking for help when I should have. Some "great ideas" crashed and burned on the launch pad. Other ideas I elected to keep to myself.

Soon I started hearing about people getting sick and others being furloughed from the work. What pre-occupied my life - learning how to make and send audio and visual files, keeping in touch with my ensembles and helping members to keep in touch with each other, where to find masks, when to wear them, how

to nurse my voice on Sunday mornings, how to keep my organ-playing technique from disappearing, exactly how far apart is six feet, what's open, what's closed – all those things started to move to the back burner. Then when I learned about people dying, being evicted, losing their homes, their jobs permanently and their businesses, my preoccupations all but moved off the stove entirely. Within a week, I lost two of my organ professors. These devastating developments were changing everything for me. And because everything was changing, I was reflecting on life very differently from the way I had before the pandemic.

This brings me to where God is in all of this. Is God asking me to undertake this new reflection? If God has a purpose in all things, especially during tragic times, am I being invited to go deeper into the larger questions that have pursued me throughout my church music vocation but with which I only dealt at the surface?

The most dramatic change in my life is how I see a difference between needs and wants. Music is one of those areas at which these two qualities collide. It is tempting to begin a sentence with “The music we need at St. Matthew’s is...” and then state a preference, declare a like (or a dislike), or make a request. Are these needs? Or someone might say “I want music that brings me a sense of hope” – a desire that may disguise a real need to quell overwhelming despair. Will I overlook the need?

I have repeatedly heard that the heart and soul of a congregation are the conversations that take place among its members. Ministry through conversation must include us leaders knowing what works and what does not and our responding with why we have made certain choices over the past seven months. How is music at St. Matthew’s sustaining you these days? Because our opportunities for music in worship are limited, what other music are you turning to for sustenance during these times? Have your preferences changed? Are there new priorities in your life? What music supports you in those new priorities? How can we at St. Matthew’s help? What music do you want? What music do you need?

For me to understand the importance of asking these questions may be the clearest direction God has given me yet. With trust in God I pray that we are witnessing the divine purposes God has for us through all of our conversations during this time. *-David Arcus, Music Director & Organist*

Musings from a Flyer

It's August in Chapel Hill- hot and heavy, another thunderstorm lining up for practice. I hold in my hand, a cardboard stock flyer from Neptune Society. On it in big, bold letters, FREE LUNCH which catches my attention, as well as, two well dressed women dressed in casual elegance smiling away. My first reaction- a daughter-mother pair.

The daughter's eyes gaze downward, while the mother looks adoringly towards her. Their hands are embraced, mother's over daughter's. My eyes catch sight above the bold FREE LUNCH line in italics, *Considering Cremation?*

Yes- I am holding an invitation to come for lunch, free of charge to a pizza restaurant in Pittsboro and listen to an informational seminar to help me plan and make the best decision for tomorrow. Wow, what timing with this pandemic still alive and well. Reservations are required, but no mention of wearing masks or social distancing sitting at tables discussing affordable options and eco-friendly choices in ash. And to make this even more enticing, there is an offer to win a Weekend Getaway for two. Before or after the roast?

My family started 2020, the year of 20/20 vision, with the acuity of grief caused by the death of John, our beloved nephew; cremated to return home and final rest. Throughout the sorrow and grief, God held me and my family. Connecting with the truth found in the *Serenity Prayer* that calls for the “*serenity to accept the things I cannot change...*”

From a random commercial flyer, I found time dissolves, the past is present, John is 22 again and all things are possible still. I find God right beside me too.

-Yvonne Petitmaire

People News

Thanks to:

- *miriam cooke* for the generous service she gave as committee chair of Faith & Arts especially during this past year and a half of transition
- *Kendall Vanderslice* for providing bread and leading us in an Agape Evening Prayer service.
- *Robin & David Arcus* for spending a Sunday afternoon of show and tell so we could see the converted van Robin has worked on to offer a home to someone in need.
- *Allison Bass* and *Elizabeth Hays* for leading our Stewardship campaign and for all those involved in making calls and contact.
- All those who helped set up the Sunday school rooms in the new Education building.
- *Kim Powell, David Arcus,* and *Elaine & John Druesedow* for working to set up their new offices space and the archives room and to *Jeff and Kelly Hopper* who offered love and labor to make this possible.

Hospitalizations:

- *Bob Snyder* is convalescing at Hillcrest Nursing home, where he will be for the next few weeks.
- *Sandra Poffenbarger* is home now convalescing.

Recent Death:

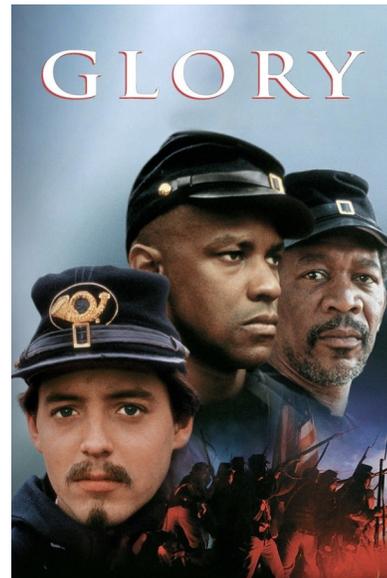
- We extend our sympathy to *Robert & Jane Fruehwirth*, at the death of Robert's mother, *Jodie Kotlarek*

†Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord:
And let light perpetual shine upon her.†

Parish Operating Budget Status as of the end of August 2020 (67%)			
BUDGET EXPENSES:	2020 Budget	Total Spent	%
Work Outside the Parish	\$84,111	\$43,000	51%
Maint. & Improvements	\$72,356	\$43,159	60%
Clergy-related	\$151,523	\$96,233	64%
Administrative	\$89,342	\$54,531	61%
Christian Ed. Program	\$54,670	\$35,557	65%
Worship-related	\$47,839	\$28,678	60%
Expenses Total:	\$499,841	\$301,158	60%
BUDGET INCOME:	2020 Budget	Total Received	%
Plate/Gift Offerings Received	\$50,000	\$24,455	49%
Pledge Payments	\$443,331	\$317,275	72%
Other	\$23,100	\$21,300	92%
Income Total:	\$516,431	\$363,030	70%

Racial Justice and Reconciliation The Film *Glory* Discussion October 13

Our next movie discussion will be about *Glory*, a 1989 American war drama about the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, the Union Army's second African American regiment in the American Civil War. The film depicts the soldiers of the 54th from the formation of their regiment to



their heroic actions at the Second Battle of Fort Wagner. Please join us on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:30 on the meeting channel.

A Compline Testimonial

David Arcus hooked me into checking out the Compline service when he said that we could come in our pajamas. That sounded mighty fine to me and so I tried it. The service is in the Book of Common Prayer. It is a short service but a powerful one. One that closes our day and sends us into a "peaceful night."

The first time I attended Compline, I felt a calm that centered my thoughts. Every time after that, I had the same feeling. There is something so spiritual about ending the day in prayer that cannot be described in words. Thank you to the Zoomers for this experience. If you can join Compline, it is at 8:30 on the worship Zoom channel with the password "praise."

~Nancy Harris



OCTOBER 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
(W) = Worship Channel (M) = Meeting Channel (F) = Formation Channel	Annual Stewardship Month Abiding in Faith Acting with Hope Anchored by Love					
Pentecost 18 OCIM Sunday Annual Giving begins 9:15 Morning Prayer (W) 10:15 Sunday Forum (W) 11a Virtual Animal Blessing (F) 4p Confirmation (F)	6:30p ERM (Hugh Tilson's Zoom link) 8:30p Compline (W)	5 7:30a Morning Silence (W) 8:30p Compline (W)	6 8a Morning Prayer (W) 10a Staff Meeting (M) 5p Those Who Live Alone (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	7 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	8 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	9 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M) 8:30p Compline (W)
Pentecost 19 9:15 Morning Prayer (W) 10:15 Sunday Forum (W) 10:15 Children's Formation (M) 1:30a Inquirers' Class (F) 4p Youth Group (F) 6p Agape Bread Service	6:30p ERM 8:30p Compline (W)	12 7:30a Morning Silence (W) 7:30p RJR Movie Discussion Glory (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	13 8a Morning Prayer (W) 5p Those Who Live Alone (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	14 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	15 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	16 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M)
Pentecost 20 9:15 Morning Prayer (W) 10:15 Sunday Forum (W) 10:15 Children's Formation (M) 11:30a Inquirers' Class (F) 4p Confirmation (F)	St Luke, the Evangelist 6:30p ERM 8:30p Compline (W)	19 7:30a Morning Silence (W) 5:30p Food for All Hugh Tilson's Team 7p Vestry (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	20 8a Morning Prayer (W) 10a Staff Meeting (M) 5p Those Who Live Alone (M) 7p Choir (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	21 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	22 St James of Jerusalem 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	23 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M) 8:30p Compline (W)
Pentecost 21 9:15 Morning Prayer (W) 10:15 Sunday Forum (W) 10:15 Children's Formation (M) 4p Youth Group (F) 7p Women's "Singing" Circle & Compline (W)	5:30p Food for All Gordon Carlson's Team 6:30p ERM 8:30p Compline (W)	26 7:30a Morning Silence (W) 8:30p Compline (W)	27 St. Simon & Jude, Apostles 8a Morning Prayer (W) 5p Those Who Live Alone (M) 7p Choir (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	28 5:30p Food for All Sharon Wheeler's Team 7:30p Adult Bible Study (Hugh's zoom) 8:30p Compline (W)	29 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M) 8:30p Compline (W)	30 8a Morning Prayer (W) 9:30a Awareness Through Movement (M) 8:30p Compline (W)
						31 9:30a Shawl Ministry

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
POST OFFICE BOX 628
HILLSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27278

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH CHURCH
CHARTERED AD 1752

THE REV. ROBERT FRUEHWIRTH
RECTOR

POST OFFICE BOX 628
HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278
TEL: 919-732-9308
FAX: 919-732-5457
E-MAIL:

WELCOME@STMATTHEWSHILLSBOROUGH.ORG
WWW.STMATTHEWSHILLSBOROUGH.ORG

ST. MATTHEW'S LIFE
IS WRITTEN AND DISTRIBUTED BY
THE PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW'S AND
IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

THE NOVEMBER ISSUE DEADLINE IS
OCTOBER 15, 2020.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
MARY ROCAP, 919-732-9308
STMATT1752@EMBARQMAIL.COM

**Ensuring You Can Vote
during the General Election on November 3rd**

Early Voting: Tuesday October 15 through Saturday October 31

Voting by Mail: All NC voters may opt to cast a ballot by mail

- The request form can be found on the Orange County Board of Elections website:
<https://www.orangecountync.gov/1104/Absentee-Voting-By-Mail>
- Completed forms should be returned to the County BOE either by dropping it off in person, by email, fax, US mail, or other delivery service such as UPS or FedEx. Voters should mark their ballots and return them to the County BOE in the envelope provided. That envelope must be signed by the voter and ONE witness, then returned to the County BOE by mail, or in person at a designated drop site (which can be either the BOE office or an Early Voting location).
- Also note: requesting a mail-in ballot does not mean a person MUST vote by mail: you may still opt to vote in person at an Early Voting site or on Election Day, but only IF your mail-in ballot has NOT yet been returned.

More information is available on the State BOE's website, as well as your county BOE's website.

-*Jamie Cox*, Chair of the Orange County Board of Elections

A Request from St. Joseph's

Saint Joseph's Episcopal Church, Durham is asking for our help. As part of their conversations on anti-racism and efforts they can take to support businesses owned and operated by minorities, St. Joseph's is working on a list of these businesses with an eye toward circulating it among faith based communities in our convocation. It is hoped that whenever possible, folks will use the services of minority-owned businesses. They will make every effort to vet and keep the list updated. If you know of such businesses, please send the name of the business, name of owner and contact (street address, email and telephone) information to: The Rev. Dr. Monnie Riggin (monnie.riggin@gmail.com).