



PRITCHARD
at South End

CHARLOTTE, NC

MESSENGER

Volume 58 Issue 8

August 2023



SIGNING DAYS | AUGUST 20 & 27



Dr. Chris Richardson

Pastor

crichardson@pritchardchurch.com

One of the unexpected events on our vacation was that we happened upon a Shakespeare in the Park in Central Park, NYC. I'm not exactly a Shakespeare enthusiast, but still have parts of "to be or not to be" memorized from sophomore English class. So, seemed like we kind of had to go, right? They were doing Hamlet, which is where that monologue originates, but I wanted to mention another of his famous lines: "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

A significant change we'll be bringing this Fall, after consultation with the Christian Education Committee and our current Sunday School teachers, is that we're going to be re-branding our Sunday School classes as... (***drumroll***) Community Connect Groups. Or you can just say Connect Groups. Or you can keep saying Sunday School if you'd like, we don't have secret police to hunt you down or anything.

For those of you who are already connected and committed to a certain class, my understanding is that they will continue on as they are for the most part. This change is primarily in hopes of helping us create new groups and opportunities for people to belong in these types of settings in our church. This change will go hand in hand with a small change to the way we calendar our groups. We are asking that our new groups and our current groups maintain a unified calendar with three major seasons: Fall (September-December), Spring (January- May), and Summer (June-August). Winter is sad to be left out, but we believe this will help us create times and places for new people to join our groups, or to move to another group if they prefer.

So, with that calendar tweak, we are asking Groups to begin new studies as the beginning of those seasons, as much as possible. One of the major barriers we currently have to helping new people really dive into our church is that we lack what I call "on-ramps." It's a bit like we've got this amazing highway for the cars currently on it, but how can new cars join the fun?! It can be intimidating to jump in right in the middle of a study, as well as confusing!

These two changes will probably take a bit for all of us to acclimate, which is ok! But I believe we will see some good fruit and good growth from this. This also allows us to expand these groups beyond just the current Sunday School hour, so some groups may elect to meet during the week, on Sunday evenings, or for early morning coffee. Some may simply be fellowship groups, with some others focusing on educational topics. Some groups will be for a defined period of time, and some groups will go on indefinitely. We want to create spaces and groups for as many as possible.

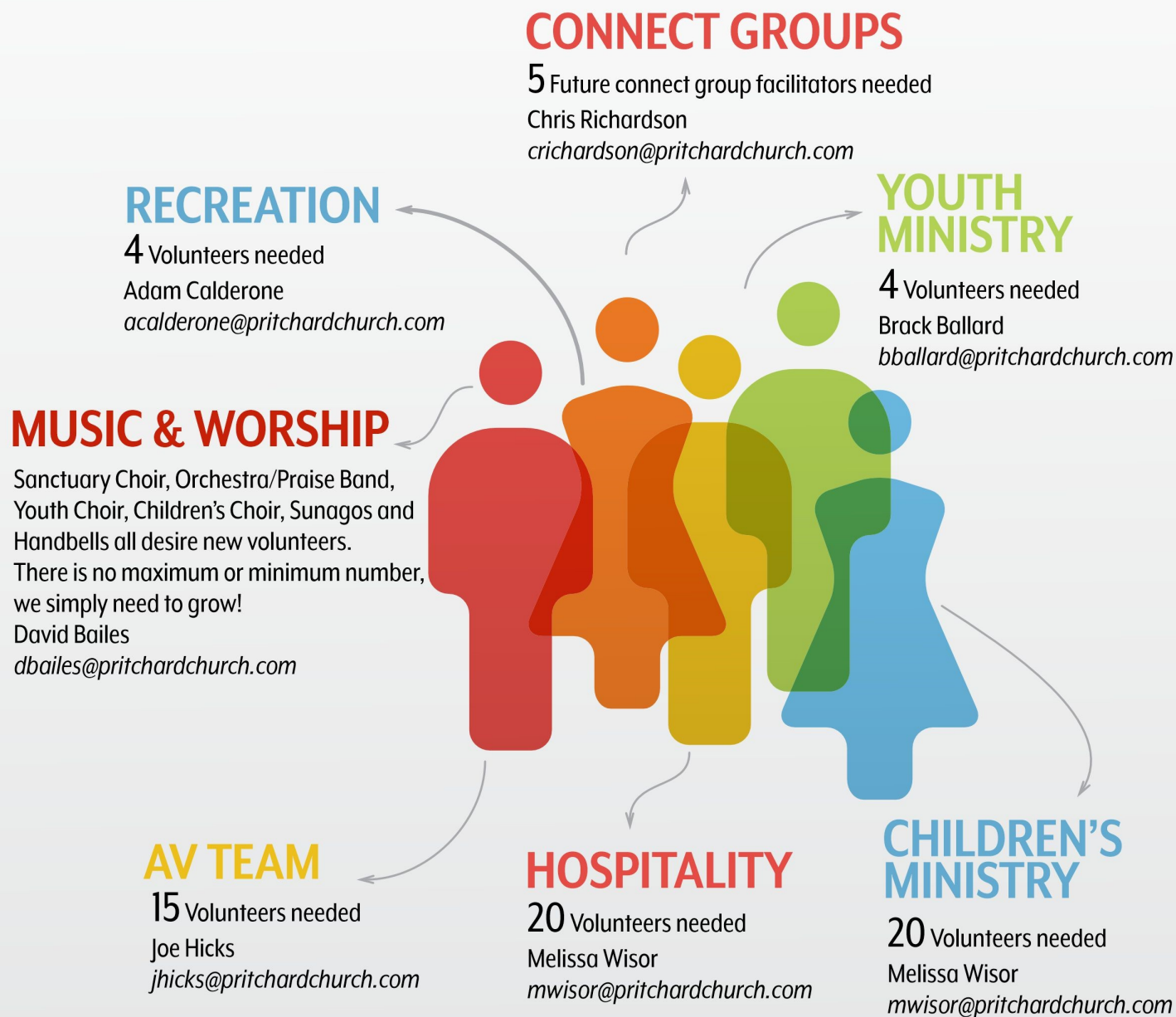
I know of a couple already that will be starting new in the Fall (September), including a cooking class fellowship group and another focusing on the basics of Christian faith. I wanted to take a small second to plug a class I will be teaching in the Fall. I have found "Celebration of Discipline" by Richard Foster a wonderful work to help Christians find new spiritual growth and vibrancy. I'll be offering that Connect Group two times during the week: Sunday morning from 9:15-10:00 AM and Thursday from 12:00-12:45 PM. The Thursday will be a brown bag lunch class at the church, so you can bring lunch and participate if you'd like. I will limit each to 20 or fewer. If you would like to participate we'll be getting sign-ups very soon, as I will need to order books. The class is the same on Sunday and Thursday, so part of my goal in offering it twice a week is to accommodate those who volunteer on Sunday mornings that might not otherwise be able to attend.

Look forward to making new paths and finding new growth with you all!

Chris

JOIN A TEAM

In order for Pritchard Church to **GROW** and **THRIVE**, we need **YOU** to join a team. There is a place for everyone!



WHICH TEAM WILL YOU JOIN?



Rev. Stan Heiser

Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care and Senior Adults

sheiser@pritchardchurch.com

SummerFest Week 2 "Attitude of Gratitude" (Philippians 2:5) - August 21-25

Please be in prayer for our 24 members, along with others from across the state, as well as those leading and entertaining this conference. Pray for everyone to have a wonderful time of fun, personal growth, relaxation, and that all will encounter Jesus Christ in a real and renewed way, and for some, maybe for the first time!

By Saturday, August 5, all of our August attendees will receive a letter from me with all the information you will need for the week. You will experience morning class options and large group gatherings in the classroom building connected to Hatch Auditorium (new this year), an inspiring worship service each morning at 11:00 AM in Hatch Auditorium, wonderful meals, breaks throughout the day in the large cafeteria and conference center, optional afternoon games, excursions, swimming in the Olympic size swimming pool or the ocean, golf, pickleball, rocking on the back porch of the conference center watching the boats/ships go by, making new friends, relaxing in God's beauty, etc.

REMINDER - the cost for the week is \$365 per person.

Final payments are due NOW! If you would like to travel down on our 15 passenger mini bus, please contact me.

Special Day Trip: Field of Makers

On Saturday, September 24 we'll travel to Mills Home (Baptist Children's Home) in Thomasville, NC to be a part of the

second Field of Makers event! Adults from all over NC will be attending! Just visiting the Baptist Children's Home/Mills Home is a great trip in itself, but add this one of a kind event and you are in for a very special day! This juried artisan event features NC's finest craftsmen, food vendors, and a tour of Mills Home. All proceeds benefit seniors served by NC Baptist Aging Ministry (NCBAM). We will travel by our two church mini buses...leaving Pritchard at 9:00 AM and returning by 4:00 PM. Admission is FREE! We'll have lunch there through one of the many food vendors present. More information will be given in my September newsletter article. I hope you will plan to go with us!

Sunago Choir Resumes

All adults 55 and above are invited to be a part of our Sunago Choir! We meet each Thursday in the Shoemaker Music Building from 10:15-11:15 AM. Our Sunago Choir is led by Mrs. Nona Thompson and our pianist is Mrs. Lori Williams. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas we share our Christmas concert, then in the Spring we present a different concert with local retirement centers throughout Charlotte. These events mean so much to our choir as well as the residents who attend! We begin our 2023-2024 season on Thursday, September 14. Hope you will consider joining us!

Sweet Spirits Returns in September

Information for our exciting 2023-2024 season will be available in our September newsletter! Remember, the BEST place to be is TOGETHER with YOU and the SWEET SPIRITS!

I hope you are having a wonderful Summer! If you have any questions, or would like to sign up for SummerFest in August, please give me a call. Looking forward to seeing you at church.

Blessings, Stan



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help is needed on Friday, August 25,
9AM - 3PM for setup and pricing.
Help is also needed during the sale on
Saturday.

Contact the Church Office if
you are available to volunteer.



Melissa Wisor

Minister to Children and Their Families

mwisor@pritchardchurch.com

Pritchard Kids and families have had a wonderful Summer. Our Music & Art Camp was the best yet. The children learned to make a joyful noise through song and art. We ended the week with an art gallery and show for the parents. Big thanks to Kristin Rogers, Emma Wisor and Gabby Foresyth for volunteering to make this camp possible!

We also had a wonderful week of VBS. The children learned how stellar Jesus is and how we can shine His light everywhere we go. This week couldn't have happened without our wonderful volunteers. Thank you to the following: **Snacks:** Lynn Allen and Jill McCarn; **Recreation:** Adam Calderone, Mac McCormick, Tom Creech and Donny Wisor; **Art:** Kristin Rogers, Tara Rogers and Emma Wisor; **Bible Study:** Millie Creech, Anna Grady and Lauren Wall; **Registration:** Marilyn Billmeyer and Lisia Shaw; **Group Leaders:** Frances Nettles, Kendra Elder, Ginger Thompson, Kelsey Strange, Virginia Wallace, Sheila Williams and Dakota Elder; **Opening Assembly:** Courtney Ballard; **Go-To-Lady:** Jennifer Bone.

Our preschool age families have had 3 Summer Family Fellowship Dinners that have been wonderful! The excitement for community is growing and we're thrilled to already have Family Fellowships for August, September and October planned. We're gearing up for an exciting Fall where we will focus on community, learning and serving. The Pritchard Kids would love for YOU to join our team.



Rev. Brack Ballard

*Minister to Youth
and College-Aged Students*

bballard@pritchardchurch.com

Dear Pritchard Family,

I'm thrilled to share some exciting updates from Pritchard Youth. In August, we're heading to Camp Ridgecrest from Monday, August 7 to Friday, August 11. Please keep us in your prayers as we anticipate a remarkable experience at camp this year!

Save the date for Saturday, August 26 when we'll be attending a Charlotte Knights baseball game. Join us for an evening of fun and support as we cheer on the team and enjoy the fireworks. Last time, the Knights staged an impressive comeback in the bottom of the 9th inning!

Throughout August, we'll be exploring the Basics of Spiritual Disciplines: Prayer, Study, Fellowship and Solitude. These practices will help prepare us for the upcoming school year, keeping God at the center. On Sunday, August 27, our youth will lead various areas of ministry during our special Youth Serve Sunday.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in our youth ministry. We're blessed to have an amazing community of young people, parents and volunteers who encourage our youth to be the presence of Christ today!

Blessings,

Rev. Brack Ballard

School Supply Collection for *Charles H. Parker Academic Center*

Backpacks, Notebooks, Scissors, Crayons, Pencils,
Rulers, Erasers, Glue sticks, and more...

Drop-off bins will be located throughout campus during August.

Blessing of the *Backpacks*

Sunday, August 27

Join us as we cover our students, faculty and staff with prayer as they start their 2023-2024 school year.



PRITCHARD PULPIT

10:30 AM WORSHIP
DR. CHRIS RICHARDSON

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

SERMON: PSUMMER IN THE PSALMS

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 1, 150

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

SERMON: OPEN THE FRONT DOORS

The flowers on the altar table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bob and Lib Gore, Sr. and Bob Gore, Jr. Forever present in our hearts! They are placed by their family - Kathy, Sarah, Xavier, Ezra, Mary, Michael, Luca and Leo.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

SERMON: GROW SMALL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

SERMON: INVEST INTENTIONALLY

Attention Everyone

One of the ongoing needs that we have been made aware of is simply being able to feed folks. We all know men or women from Anchor of Hope homes. One thing that frequently happens is someone decides to make a positive change in his/her life, but then they are completely broke and don't have food. So we are hoping we can help in a small and simple way.

One idea that emerged from the Mission Committee was to have something similar to a food pantry. But, here is the difference - we would have boxes that we would ask people to fill with certain items which we will list. Then bring that box back. Then if someone is in need, they can come by and simply get a box. This keeps us from having to manage what people get or how much, it also allows our people to simply get a box, fill it up, and drop it off for someone in need.

Carol Hewitt has volunteered from that committee to help do some of the logistical work on it, but it would be wonderful if we could find someone to partner with her. Basically, you would keep a tally on how many boxes we have, check dates regularly, and update our church on how many we've given out. Please reach out to the Church Office with questions. We're hoping to get this moving during the Fall.

Thanks!

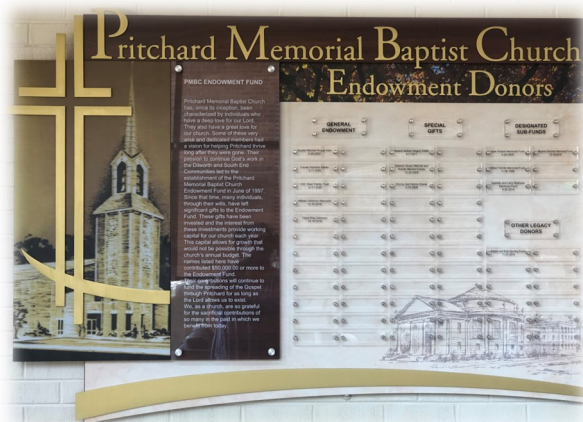
We will be moving the Endowment Donor Recognition Board the last week of August to the side entrance of the Sanctuary. This is so more people can see it and be inspired by the legacy that others have left to the church and God's mission at PMBC. Please take time to read the message below that is on our Endowment Donor Recognition Board. There is plenty of room on the Donor Board for other legacy donors and we believe that exciting things can happen in the future for Pritchard because others planned for the future.

"Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church has, since its inception, been characterized by individuals who have a deep love for our Lord. They also have a great love for our church. Some of these very wise and dedicated members had a vision for helping Pritchard thrive long after they were gone. Their passion to continue in God's work in the Dilworth and South End communities led to the establishment of the Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church Endowment Fund in June of 1997. Since that time, many individuals, through their wills, have left significant gifts to the Endowment Fund. These gifts have been invested and the interest from these investments provide working capital for our church each year. This capital allows for growth that would not be possible through the church's annual budget. The names listed here have contributed \$50,000 or more to the Endowment Fund. Their contributions will continue to fund the spreading of the Gospel through Pritchard for as long as the Lord allows us to exist. We as a church are so grateful for the sacrificial contributions of so many in the past in which we benefit from today."

List of Donors by the Endowment Sub-Fund

• General Endowment Sub-Fund: Arzelle Mitchell House Sale, Louise Hartman Estate, H.E. Kiser Family Trust, William Solomon Memorial, Hazel Mae Solomon; • Special Gifts Sub-Fund: Donna Gail Herron Estate, Dawson Query Mitchell & Arzelle Mitchell Estate, Howard Jackson Gregory Estate; • List of Other Donors (where funds were retained by church for projects/debt retirement, etc.): Robert & Ruth Spurling Estate

Should you be interested in donating gifts now or in the future in memory or honor of a loved one, you can contact the Church Office or a member of the Endowment Committee.





Tuesday, August 1

Wednesday, August 2

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 3

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, August 4

Saturday, August 5

5:00 PM—Pritchard University

Sunday, August 6

9:00-10:15 AM—HIS Class Sunday Social

9:15-10:15 AM—Bible Study

10:30 AM—Worship Celebration

Monday, August 7

9:00 AM—Campers depart for Ridgecrest

Tuesday, August 8

Wednesday, August 9

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

NO ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursday, August 10

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, August 11

12:00 PM—Campers return from Ridgecrest

Saturday, August 12

Sunday, August 13

9:15-10:15 AM—Bible Study

10:30 AM—Worship Celebration

Monday, August 14

6:30 PM—Deacons Meeting (Williams Center Lounge)

Tuesday, August 15

Wednesday, August 16

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 17

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, August 18

Saturday, August 19

Sunday, August 20

9:15-10:15 AM—Bible Study

10:30 AM—Worship Celebration/Signing Day

Monday, August 21

9:00 AM—Senior Adults depart for Fort Caswell

Tuesday, August 22

*VOLUNTEERS will NOT go to Crisis Assistance this month

Wednesday, August 23

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 24

Friday, August 25

9:00 AM-3:00 PM—Yard Sale Set-Up

4:00 PM—Senior Adults return from Fort Caswell

Saturday, August 26

7:00 AM-2:00 PM—Yard Sale

5:00-10:00 PM—Youth to Knights Baseball Game

Sunday, August 27

9:15-10:15 AM—Bible Study

10:30 AM—Worship Celebration/Signing Day

Monday, August 28

9:00 AM-4:00 PM—Campus Work Week

Tuesday, August 29

9:00 AM-4:00 PM—Campus Work Week

Wednesday, August 30

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

9:00 AM-4:00 PM—Campus Work Week

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 31

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

9:00 AM-4:00 PM—Campus Work Week

****Our Thrift Store is CLOSED the month of August****

Lend a Helping Hand
Church
WORK DAY



We are excited about cleaning and
freshening up our campus the week of

August 28 - September 1
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Please let us know how you can help by
calling the Church Office!

Pressure washing, painting, cleaning
(dusting, window washing, etc.),
landscaping and several other easy tasks.

Stewardship Update: Second Quarter 2023 Revenues and Expenses Summary

	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Revenue	\$673,049	\$721,579
Expenses	\$652,882	\$745,969
Net Income	\$20,167	\$(24,390)

Year-to-date actual net income is \$20,167 compared to \$(24,390) for the budget, giving us a net difference of \$44,557 to the good.

We Express Our Love and Heartfelt Sympathy to:

- The family and friends in the passing of Mabel Hunt.
- Will and Linda Brooks in the passing of their daughter, Morgan Thompson.
- The family and friends in the passing of Rose Thompson.
- The family and friends in the passing of Lucille Bell.

Staff Anniversary

Congratulations to Adam Calderone, our Recreation Director, who is celebrating his two year anniversary on our staff August 9. We have had more community involvement on campus thanks to his many recreational programs. Thank you, Adam, for your dedication, hard work and commitment! We love and appreciate you!

"We give thanks to God always for you...."
1 Thessalonians 1:2

Congratulations!

We celebrate with Dan and Lori Williams on the birth of a grandson, Samuel William Parkes, born July 12 in Florida. He weighed 8 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21.25" long. Proud parents are Reid and Katie Parkes, aunt Hannah Williams, uncle Michael Williams and great-grandfather Bill Little.



Virginia Wallace.....1	Terry Walker.....17
Reagan Self.....1	Bethany Nettles.....17
Jean Boyd.....1	Charles Bumgardner.....17
Bob Morgan.....2	Randy Duncan.....17
Sharon Carstens.....4	Bob Riggins.....18
Mary Frances Bussey.....5	Lisa Clark.....19
Joseph Sirianni.....5	Amber Williams.....20
Bo Sherrill.....6	Cory Hicks.....21
Anne Roberson.....7	Joey Cremeens.....22
Velma Wall.....7	Donna West.....23
Larry Robinson.....8	Emery Taylor.....23
Willow Knepp.....8	Terry Pope.....27
Lynn Allen.....9	Ripkin Beatty.....27
Peggy Lyerly.....10	Donna Baldivid.....29
Susan Brown.....12	Sandy Riggins.....30
Robin Richardson.....13	Don Royer.....31

TOMATOES and CUCUMBERS are needed for Camp Ridgecrest! Please leave in the Church Office no later than **Sunday, August 6.**

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	Dr. Chris Richardson
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care & Senior Adults.....	Rev. Stan Heiser
Minister of Music & Outreach.....	Rev. David Bailes
Minister to Youth & College Aged Students.....	Rev. Brack Ballard
Minister to Children and Their Families.....	Melissa Wisor
Administrator.....	Doug Burkhart
Executive Assistant for Administration & Education.....	Lynn Plyler
Office Assistant/Media Center Director.....	Katrina Gore
Accounting Assistant.....	Jeannie Sigmon
AV Director.....	Joe Hicks
Recreation Director.....	Adam Calderone
Maintenance.....	James Phillips
Grounds Keeper.....	Dewight Little



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☎ 704-376-1571 📠 704-376-6304

Dial-A-Prayer: 704-334-2332

Child Development Center: 704-343-2944

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