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*(above) Beautiful irises blooming in the Siler Garden at Pullen. Photo by Kim Gazella.*

## Pullen Weekly News

April 20-26

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### May a Song Remain Among Us



For many, isolation and physical-distancing drastically changes the nature of their life and work. Being in the middle of such an experience can be discouraging as persons wonder if life will ever get “back to normal,” or if future goals and aspirations will be realized anytime soon.

American poet, Langston Hughes, provides encouragement through his poem, "Dreams." *Contemplate his poem [here](#) .*

Composer, Susan LaBarr, has set Hughes' poem in a beautiful choral arrangement, "Hold Fast to Dreams." The Pullen Chancel Choir has found much meaning in it, and sings it expressively. You can hear them sing the choral setting from a Pullen worship service in January of this year. *As you listen, may you be inspired to continue the dreaming of individual and collective dreams.* Performance Link: <https://vimeo.com/384344832> (anthem begins at: 1:03:35)

Whether near or far apart, may a song remain!

-Larry E. Schultz, Minister of Music

### Earth Day is Tomorrow! Wednesday, April 22



April 22, 2020 marks the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. April 22nd was designated as a day to raise public consciousness about the state of our planet.

If you want to get involved this week go to <https://www.earthdaylive2020.org> . Earth Day Live will feature a three-day livestream where millions of people can join activists, celebrities, musicians, and more in an epic moment of community and hope for the future.

April 22nd at noon North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light and Southeast Faith Leaders Network will host a Zoom call entitled "Solar 101 for Congregations". ( <https://zoom.us/j/99339521884?pwd=UGo5ZkorVk5tWDEyNFhRTEEx6UG9wdz09&status=success> )

Look for more information and links on our social media on Wednesday!

### 2020 Raising Hope is Going Virtual- join us on Thursday!

The Hope Center's Virtual Raising Hope is THIS THURSDAY. **The Live Stream will start at 7:30 p.m.** We hope you'll join us and invite your friends, too! While we will truly miss seeing so many of you in person, we think you are going to love how we've adapted the event to fit with the times.



Elizabeth Gardner will still be joining us as emcee and Kristin Cooper provided a special message for us to share.

[This short video from Meredith](#) explains more about what you can expect of the day. To join the Live Stream, sign up to receive the emails (or have friends sign up to receive the emails), or for more information, visit [hopecenteratpullen.org](http://hopecenteratpullen.org) . You can also now **text Raising Hope to 44-321** to easily make a donation.

Thank you to everyone who jumped on early as event sponsors. We could not be so close to our original net goal without your early commitment. We are so fortunate to have your steadfast support. *See you (virtually) Thursday!!*

-Erin Witcher

The Hope Center - Raising Hope info

### Donations for Round Table Ministry

The number of guests coming to Round Table Ministry on Tuesdays and Thursdays has dropped significantly. As a result, we are only handing out about 120 bags per week. I can't believe I am about to say this, *but we do not need any further donations to Round Table at this time*. Given the low numbers coming on Tuesdays/Thursdays and the overwhelming generosity of Pullenites, we currently have enough items to pack bags for the foreseeable future. I am VERY grateful to everyone for all the items you have donated. When we are once again in need of donations, I will let you know. **THANK YOU!!!!**

~Nancy Bradley

### An Opportunity for Connection



To make space for continued connection, we're offering several opportunities to connect in small online groups via Zoom. Zoom allows you to communicate via video chat or by phone.

We have groups gathering virtually each week. Some groups meet just to chat and others spend some of the time engaging in a contemplative practice. It's a good opportunity to see other members of the community, some that we may not know as well as others. To join one of these small groups, simply click the link below for the day and time you want. If prompted, the password is **1801** .

- [Monday, 7 pm](#) (conversational)
- [Wednesday, 7 pm](#) (conversational)
- [Thursday, 10 am](#) (contemplative)
- [Friday, 12 pm](#) (contemplative)

-Chalice Overy

## We're Here for You

We recognize that those in vulnerable populations will want to remain as isolated as possible, but may still need medications, groceries, etc. If you have needs, but do not feel comfortable going out, please **contact Chalice Overy at [coveury@pullen.org](mailto:coveury@pullen.org) or 919-828-0887 ext. 214** . -Chalice Overy

### Livestream Videos Online



We hope that in the coming weeks you will join for worship each Sunday by watching the livestream . The recordings of the services are then archived on our webpage, so you can watch any time.

If you have comments or concerns about the livestream, if you need help, or you'd like to send us a photo of your pet watching the service, please email Dana at [news@pullen.org](mailto:news@pullen.org) . Featured today is Pat Thomas's cat Marvin. :)

Video Archive

### Search Committee hard at work



The Church Administrator Search Committee is still accepting applications for Pullen's full-time Church Administrator.

The position is posted on the Pullen website at [pullen.org/jobs](http://pullen.org/jobs) .

-Kyle Hampton, Chair of Church Administrator Search Committee  
-Catherine Corbett, Chair of Personnel Committee

### Stay Connected to Pullen Church during Covid-19

There is a [page](#) on the Pullen Website to help you stay connected during the pandemic. Visit it for all of the links to our emails, videos, and Zoom meetings.

**Note: The church office closed on March 27 and will remain closed until the Stay-at-Home Order is lifted. You can leave a voice mail at the church (919-828-0897). You may also email staff. Our addresses are available [here](#) .**



Please reach out if you have questions or suggestions about our communications channels. Email Communications Specialist Dana Deaton at [news@pullen.org](mailto:news@pullen.org) .  
*-Dana Deaton*

Staying Connected

*Please share this email with your friends!*



**Pullen Memorial Baptist Church**

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919-828-0897 | [www.pullen.org](http://www.pullen.org) | [@PullenChurch](https://twitter.com/PullenChurch)