

## TRYON TRUMPET

Tryon Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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## TPC shows appreciation for Polk County veterans with monthly breakfasts

Ken "Skip" Martin is a veteran who has attended worship at our church several times recently. He also came to the first breakfast for veterans July 30.

"I love how friendly everyone was there at the church," he said. "The food was good. I think we had a good turnout with the veterans and I'm hoping we will get more next time."

Organizer DeAnne Zaeske had the same thoughts. The first breakfast was successful, and she hopes the next, from 8 to 10 a.m. Aug. 27, will be even better.

Pete Bellamy was kitchen commander, and many other volunteers made sure everyone was served – and thanked for their service.

(See more photos on Page 10)



Pete Bellamy and DeAnne Zaeske led the volunteers.

# TPC team tackles many critical home repairs

Jesus knew carpentry, but the Gospels don't record whether he made home repairs in addition to healing the sick and driving out demons. Some of his TPC followers do, however.

On a weekday morning in July, as the temperature still held in the 80s, Skip Taylor and Brian Bancroft were replacing boards on a ramp, deck and steps at a church member's home. A few days earlier, they had been joined by Brad Hendrix, John Hendrix and Bill Sullivan.

That crew and a few other men – including Donnie Carruth, Glenn LeFeber, Mike Carruth and Allan Purtill – have worked on a “critical home repair” ministry for a while, meeting needs in a very hands-on way. More hands are welcome.



Skip Taylor, Brian Bancroft and others see needs in our congregation and beyond.

“It’s more or less a case of whoever is available on any given day,” Skip says. “There isn’t a formal group. However, we are looking to branch out to doing some limited types of critical home repairs for people in need throughout the Foothills. From what we are hearing from various nonprofits and anecdotally, there is a huge need for critical home repair in our area.”

Thermal Belt Outreach has referred several possible projects to the team in recent weeks. For many area residents already struggling to keep a roof over their heads, the cost of home repairs is unaffordable.

“We are looking for additional folks from both inside and outside our congregation to join in these projects,” Skip says. “There is a need for a variety of skills, from cleanup to more skilled carpentry and everything in between. And this is not limited to men. There are lots of way to help.”

There have been some preliminary conversations with other churches about forming an interfaith group to tackle projects across the county. Of course, some projects would be too big – or high.

“All of us are older and have been ordered by our wives to stay off roofs,” Skip says.

Anyone who might be interested in helping should contact the church office, Pastor Purtill or Skip Taylor (828-200-9259, [stmas4280@gmail.com](mailto:stmas4280@gmail.com)).

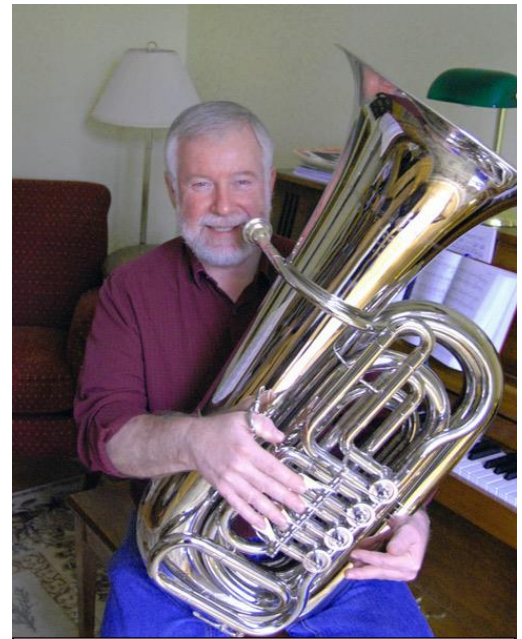
**By Doug Clark**

## Meet the Session: Hank Sibley

Hank and Sandy Sibley moved to Tryon in 2008 from Northeastern Ohio. Prior to that, they lived in Western New York. They have two sons and two precious grandchildren, Wyatt and Willa.

Hank began his career in the property/casualty insurance field as an underwriter. He managed offices in Western New York, writing both personal and commercial lines of business. The last 20 years he worked for AmTrust, a growing company with a specialty in worker's compensation. However, since he was traveling around the country every week, Hank and Sandy decided that access to airports was easier in this area. He fully retired at the end of 2021.

In his spare time, Hank plays the euphonium in the Hendersonville Community Band and the trombone with the Blue Ridge Bones. He also plays the tuba and sings. Furniture making is another hobby, as is walking/running with their dogs. (Can we book the Blue Ridge Bones for a TPC event?)



Music plays a large role in Hank's life.

Hank tells us that he was active with instrumental music in high school, playing with several bands and orchestras both locally and on a county and state level. Once he went to college, he stopped playing music. Twenty years later, Hank learned of a community band in a neighboring school district as part of a continuing education program. He's been playing music ever since. Moral of this story: It's never too late to recapture what you enjoy.

Hank serves as vice-chair of the Administrative Committee. In that role, he works with Denny Hill and other Session members and committees on church operations such as property, finance and personnel.

As Hank thinks about the future of our congregation, he believes we should continue to be a faith community where *everyone* is welcomed to worship, participate and contribute to the life of the church according to their talents and interests.

## Meet the Session: Penny Padgett

Penny holds the distinction in our church of actually having grown up in Polk County! She moved away for college but still had family here. After moving from Durham to Virginia for grad school and a postdoctoral fellowship, she and her husband, Bobby Silver, moved to Pennsylvania and lived there for 17 years. In 1999, they moved their family to Chapel Hill.

In 2010, Penny bought The Book Shelf in Tryon and, after retirement from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2013, she and Bobby built a house on family property in Mill Spring and Penny took over the operation of the bookstore.

Penny and Bobby have two daughters, Margaret and Amanda, who both live in central North Carolina. They have one adorable grandson, Sammy Silver, age 3.

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**(From MEET THE SESSION, Page 3)**

Penny enjoys reading, hiking, traveling and working in the yard. A fun fact about Penny is that she attended Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in London in 1977.



Penny returned 'home' in 2013.

Penny joined the Session in 2020. She chairs the Congregational Care Committee. Under her direction, Penny's committee prepares meals for church members who are sick or bereaved. It sends out cards of encouragement, sympathy or for special occasions. And it provides "care packages" to our college students.

In addition to her committee responsibilities, Penny and Bobby serve as ushers and communion preparers and volunteer on the Fellowship Committee. She has also chaired the pandemic task force. They joined TPC three years ago.

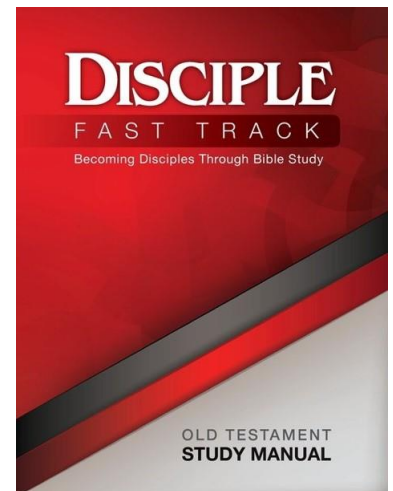
*By the Membership Committee*

## Disciple: Bible study for busy or not-so-busy lives

You are invited on a 12-week journey that will immerse you in the Old Testament. This study is a wonderful way to engage with the Bible for the first time or renew your understanding again.

Ever wondered what ties the Scriptures together? Ever sought to better read and understand God's word for today? We will read a manageable three to five chapters a day in preparation for weekly meetings. Each class will last approximately 75 minutes and includes a review video to help us recall important facts and ideas for discussion of the Scriptures. Upon completion of Disciple, you will have the opportunity to take the New Testament in the coming year.

The class will begin Sunday, Aug. 28 at 4 p.m. Where will be determined by number of participants. The manual is \$17. Please contact Dr. Purtilt with questions or to participate.



## Sunday morning classes for adults begin Sept. 11

The Christian Growth Committee will offer two opportunities for adult Bible study and discussion beginning Sunday, Sept. 11. Betsy Zeek will lead a study of 2 Peter before worship at 9 a.m. Following worship, Mike Carruth will facilitate a forum or discussion group addressing the question, "How can the Bible guide us in our lives?"

The committee also plans to survey the congregation in the coming weeks to discover what kind of learning opportunities or activities you would like to see offered – for adults, children and families. Please give this some thought to help us all grow in our Christian faith together.

## TPC history: Noted Baptist minister filled pulpit four decades ago

Forty years ago, Tryon Presbyterians heard regular sermons preached by a notable Baptist minister.

Dr. Claude U. Broach retired to Tryon, with his wife Katherine, in 1980 after a distinguished and sometimes controversial career that included three decades as pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Charlotte, followed by six years as director of the Ecumenical Institute at Wake Forest University.

Broach was hired as interim minister by the Session of Tryon Presbyterian Church soon after the Rev. John D. Smith announced his retirement in early 1982. Only days later, however, the Session proclaimed it had taken "hasty action" in not finding a Presbyterian interim. It rescinded its initial decision and selected Dr. John A. Gardner instead. Gardner, the late father-in-law of our Elizabeth Gardner, had also retired to Tryon.

Because the Session still felt an obligation to Broach, it asked Broach and Gardner to work out a mutually agreeable arrangement. So, from July 1982 until April 1983, Gardner held office hours and did most of the visitation, and the two divided preaching duties, apparently with no hard feelings.

"That doesn't surprise me at all," said Claude Broach Jr., who lives in Weaverville with his wife, Sally. Broach Jr. recalls that his father never took himself too seriously, despite his accomplishments. So, it probably suited him better to preach twice a month and leave the administrative work to Gardner.

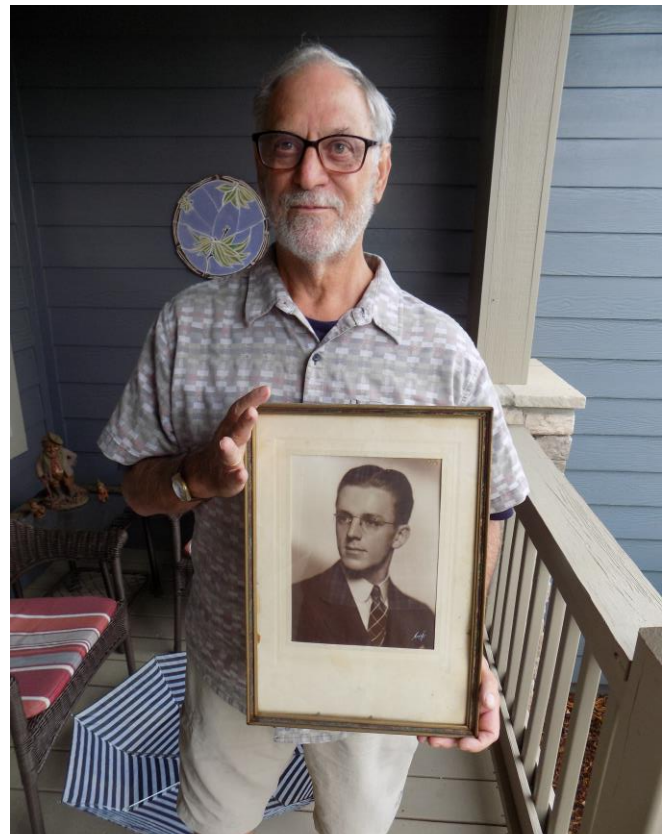
Despite the Session's misstep, Broach was an inspired choice to fill our pulpit. He first gained wide attention during the presidential election campaign of 1960 when many Protestant leaders organized to oppose the candidacy of John F. Kennedy because of his Catholic faith, fearing he would owe his first allegiance to the Vatican. As this effort grew in North Carolina, Broach spoke out against what he perceived to be anti-Catholic bias.



Photo from St. John's Baptist

Many Baptists reacted angrily, according to a scholarly paper about Broach by Steven R. Harmon, professor of theological history at Gardner-Webb University. One critic called Broach "a traitor, not only to your church and your country, but to the cause of freedom everywhere."

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Claude Broach Jr. with a photo of his late father.

**(From TPC HISTORY, Page 5)**

“There were people who wanted Dad to resign from St. John’s,” his son remembered. “It didn’t happen.”

Broach had always kept the church doors open to people of other faith traditions. He often invited faculty members from Presbyterian Queens College to lead Bible studies. Later, he led St. John’s to relax its requirements for baptism. It would continue to “baptize new converts by immersion, but candidates for membership from other traditions in which they had been baptized by another mode, meaning pouring or sprinkling, would not be required to be re-baptized, so long as their baptism was ‘an act of obedience which followed conversion,’” Harmon wrote.

For this, St. John’s was “disfellowshipped” by the Mecklenburg Baptist Association. No matter. It joined a new association that included several African American congregations. At this time, in the 1960s and ‘70s, Broach was also active in racial and social justice leadership as his own congregation was integrating.

Broach Jr. doesn’t recall why his parents moved to Tryon, where they bought a house on Hogback Mountain Road offering an expansive view toward South Carolina.

“I think they enjoyed Tryon a lot,” he said. “It was a real pleasure for them. They made a lot of friends.”

In addition to preaching in several local churches, the senior Broach sang in a chorus and worked with Habitat for Humanity. He also delivered a lecture series on religion and faith, Broach Jr. remembers.

His father was a highly educated, intellectually curious theologian who could express complex ideas in ways that everyone understood, Broach Jr. said. He also incorporated his keen sense of humor into sermons.

The elder Broaches made one more move in the mid-1990s, settling at The Pines, a retirement community in Davidson. It brought them closer to their daughter, Kathy Bragg. Broach Sr. died in 1997 at 83. Katherine Broach lived until 2006.

The Charlotte Observer noted Broach Sr.’s passing by writing: “During his long career, he took leadership roles on countless committees and boards including the Mecklenburg Baptist Interracial Commission, the Mayor’s Committee on Community Relations, the Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches and the Wake Forest University Board of Trustees.”

Broach is fondly remembered at St. John’s Baptist Church in Charlotte, which, like our church, also was founded in 1922. Its website notes this about its longest-serving pastor: “Under his leadership St. John’s realized its most significant growth in missions and community ministry. Dr. Broach led the church to develop and nurture the ‘servant church’ concept.”

Broach published a credo in his 1986 book, “Waiting for the Wind.” He might have written it in the house on the breezy mountain above Tryon. The credo speaks of God’s Wind.

“It blows for the healing of the nations – toward justice, toward peace, toward brotherhood,” he wrote. “Always. Always.

“And to that Wind, I lift my sail.”

No doubt he lifted many Tryon Presbyterians, too.

**By Doug Clark**

# Alex Harrelson delights enthusiastic audience

An enthusiastic audience of 80 to 90 demanded an encore following tenor Alexander Harrelson's performance at TPC Sunday afternoon, Aug. 7.

Alex, 22, grew up in our church. He is the son of Edward and Petra Harrelson and is entering his second year of pursuing a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. He had just returned from Novafeltria, Italy, where he performed the role of Lindoro in a David Ronis production of Rossini's "L'Italiana in Algeri."



Alexander Harrelson was accompanied by Dr. Lesley Bush for his Aug. 7 concert.

Alex's concert was sponsored by Tryon Presbyterian Church's Centennial Commission and is the first of several planned events to mark a century of ministry in the community. The audience was evenly divided between church members and guests.

"I was very pleased. It was a good turnout," said Gloria Underwood, who chairs the Centennial Commission. She expressed great appreciation to Alex for contributing his talents.

The program featured opera arias by Puccini, Massenet and Mozart, as well as compositions by Schubert, Dan Forrest and Sondheim. Alex was accompanied by Lesley Bush, who praised the young singer.

"He did a very good job," Lesley said. "People were very appreciative and showed their support with applause. A number stayed after the program to speak to him."

"I've been watching him perform for four or five years now," Gloria added. "It's rewarding to see the musical maturity he is growing into."

The audience response was "overwhelmingly positive," she said. And, yes, Alex reciprocated with an encore.

"It was a good afternoon," Lesley said.

Thanks to Alex and Lesley for making it that for everyone who attended.



Alex has returned to Utah for voice studies.

## Join Jeanie's team providing meals for church members in need

In our church, there's always someone who needs a meal. Jeanie Daniel tries to make sure they get it.

Jeanie coordinates the volunteers who prepare and deliver meals to church members who are ill or recovering from injuries or otherwise unable to cook for themselves. She's been doing it for, well, she can't say exactly.

"Many years," she said recently. "It's been a very long time. It hasn't been hard or anything. I'm happy to do it."

The Congregational Care Committee is responsible for meeting the needs of church members, and Jeanie fills the meal delivery role for the committee.

"I've been on that committee a long time, too," she said.

Penny Padgett, who currently chairs Congregational Care, knows she can count on Jeanie.

"She's organized and always thinking ahead, two or three months ahead," Penny said. "It means a lot to people."

In turn, Jeanie counts on volunteers to share the task. She's had as many as 11 at one time, but she was down to just five earlier this summer.

That's understandable. In an older congregation, people's circumstances can change quickly. Volunteers come and go, and sometimes the volunteers themselves can become the ones who need help.

With just a few volunteers, Jeanie worries that "I'm wearing them out." So, she has issued a plea for more help. With a few more hands and wheels, no one should have to provide or deliver more than one meal per month. The church will reimburse them for expenses.

This is a labor of love. The recipients are always grateful, Jeanie said – and not just for the food. They appreciate the contact with caring people and the relationships the visits build.

In addition to bringing meals, Jeanie sometimes runs errands for people who can't get out or takes them to appointments. Still, "My main mission is getting them fed so they can get their strength back."

That's how she uses her gifts to serve others.

"Everybody has a niche how they can help people, and mine is food," she said. "I can do something in the kitchen, and that's where I've stepped up."

Others who would like to do the same should call Jeanie at 864-909-1166 or send her an email at [jeaniedaniel@gmail.com](mailto:jeaniedaniel@gmail.com).





TPC members Lynn Coombs, MaryAnn Sloan and Rita Nichols help at Outreach.

## Mission spotlight: Summer food program

Congregational United Church of Christ in Tryon started a summer food program many years ago. In the last several years, Congregational has partnered with Outreach and other churches to serve more families in our community.

Tryon Presbyterian Church joined in this worthy mission this year with a financial donation and hands-on help, as some of our members assist in packing bags of food. With rising prices for many necessities, many families are finding it hard to put enough food on the table. This year, 190 children in 83 families are receiving a weekly bag of food.

We are thankful to all who work so tirelessly to feed those in need.

**Submitted by the Mission Committee**

## *And don't forget our Blessing Box*

The TPC Blessing Box offers "emergency provisions for anyone in need." Typically, those are healthy food items. They can be other household necessities as well, such as cleaning supplies. The Blessing Box is well used, which means it is keenly needed. Thanks for keeping it stocked!

**Save the date for our Centennial Celebration: Oct. 23, 2022!**

## Just be patient, Home is waiting

Just a thought from a minister friend:

Sometimes our trip for Home does not go as quickly or smoothly as we think it will. Sometimes we can even see the lights of Home but we have to go around road repair, over another mountain, through new territory. We can see our goal in the distance, so it can be frustrating when we are eager to get Home.

Be patient, we will get there. Father is still in control, and there is something more we are to do.

**By Betsy Zeek**

## Add your voice to the Trumpet

The Tryon Trumpet hopes you will share your news about church happenings and about your mission work in the community as well as your faith stories. Let's all grow in faith together!

Contact Doug Clark at [dougclark55@gmail.com](mailto:dougclark55@gmail.com).

## Photos from TPC's first breakfast for veterans

