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## Pullen Weekly News

May 4-10

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### May a Song Remain Among Us

**Music-making strengthens the body, engages the mind and lifts the spirit.** Studies have shown that singing and playing instruments provide for the well-being of our physical, cognitive and social health. We know from the experience of worship how music helps us engage and express the indescribable.

Realizing how healthful music-making has been to human beings, **I never would have imagined that this week I would be participating in a webinar entitled: “What Do Science and Data Say about the Near Term Future of Singing?”** Sponsored by the country’s major music and medical organizations, the webinar will be led by leading medical researchers who will offer fact-based conversation about protecting singers, conductors and others during this time of Covid-19. Though there certainly are concerns about the spread of infectious aerosols with group-singing and other activities, I look forward to creative solutions.

**Though isolated, one solution for now is to celebrate how music connects us. This will be the focus of this Sunday’s livestreamed worship service.** You will hear and

sing along with people and groups from whom we are currently distanced including: Pullen's Youth Choir, Chancel Choir, Pullen Orchestra, our partners in Cuba and the Republic of Georgia along with others. Music was the catalyst for these musicians to unite through remote recordings. It is also the means through which they will connect with you for worship in your home on Sunday, May 10.

In 2015, Pullen's Church Music Search demonstrated first-hand how music connects us globally. Many of you remember meeting winning composer, Chris O'Hara, live from his home in England via Skype connection in our sanctuary. After that experience, one of Pullen's Chancel Choir members was able to visit Chris while traveling to the UK. His piece, "**Commonwealth of Love**," has become a meaningful expression for our congregation. Its title has become a description of who we strive to be. **Enjoy listening to it today:**

**Performance Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=icCDK5RP04&t=909s>

Presented for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alliance of Baptists at Pullen in 2017  
**(Anthem is around 1:10)**

**Refrain Lyrics:**

*We will climb a mountain, a mountain far above;  
we will build together, it will stand forever,  
a commonwealth of love.*

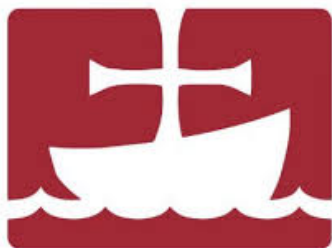
*Hold on to the vision that strife one day will cease;  
it's a hope of justice; it's a hope of freedom, O it's the hope of peace.*

Whether near or far apart, may a song remain!

*-Larry E. Schultz, Minister of Music*

Music Ministry at Pullen

### National Day of Prayer - Ringing of the Bells- Noon Thursday



In solidarity with our neighbors around the world who are calling aloud from their balconies and rooftops across their neighborhoods and cities each evening, the N.C. Council of Churches has invited us to ring out our prayers at noon on May 7, the National Day of Prayer, 2020.

We will join churches rural and urban, large and small, in **5 minutes** of "Joyful Noise" as a witness to our belief that these bells will once again call us to physically worship and pray together. And, in the meantime, we wait hopefully for God's grace-filled future.

Since Pullen Church does not have a bell tower or carillons, some of our staff members will be ringing handbells on the church steps. We invite those of you who

own a bell (cowbell, dinner bell, schoolhouse bell, etc.) to **step outside your home and join the "joyful noise" at noon on Thursday, May 7 .**

*-Pullen Staff & NC Council of Churches*

### Calling All Graduates



Are you (or your child) graduating from High School in 2020? If you haven't heard from Bryan yet, email him! We need a portrait of each of our graduates to be added to the youth space. Email these to [blee@pullen.org](mailto:blee@pullen.org) by May 21. We also need your beautiful face on Sunday, May 31st. Depending on where we are with stay-at-home orders, you

may be at the church or taking part virtually.

*-Bryan Lee*

### Weekly Zoom groups suspended- other Zoom links available!

When we were no longer able to gather for worship, we wanted to make sure you had space to stay connected to your Pullen family, so we started weekly small groups on Zoom. As things have evolved and we've been inundated with invitations to video chats, I've noticed that many have found ways to connect with the people and practices that are most meaningful, while keeping screen time at a tolerable level. Because attendance for our weekly small groups has been consistently low, we will suspend them for now.



I am grateful for our facilitators who have held these spaces for us over the past 6 weeks! They are:

- *Sarah Bowen*
- *Dana Lindquist*
- *Mark Nance*
- *Kevin Neiley*
- *Shannon Neiley*
- *Rachel Smith*



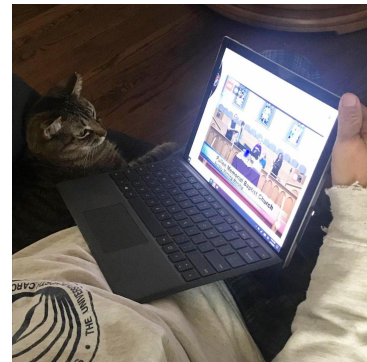
If you have a group that is interested in setting up a **private Zoom call** , please reach out by emailing [covery@pullen.org](mailto:covery@pullen.org) . Pictured above, the **PMW Freeman-McMillan Circle** had a great morning meeting on May 5. They logged in to their Zoom call and went to work! The group agreed to give extra money to Urban Ministry and to provide a meal for the essential workers at Oak City Cares. Julia will also be dropping off ten dozen roses to Rex Hospital! Thank you, Pullen Mission Women.

*-Chalice Overy*

### A Message about Livestream Videos

We hope that 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, or if you need help accessing it, please email Dana at [news@pullen.org](mailto:news@pullen.org) . *Note: please refrain from texting Nathan, Henry, or Bryan during the livestream service.*



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](https://pullen.org/jobs) .**

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

### 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 [covey@pullen.org](mailto:covey@pullen.org) or 919-828-0887 ext. 214** . -*Chalice Overy*

### 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.

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) .

*Note about the Weekly Email:* You may have noticed that you are receiving this weekly email on Tuesday! We will publish the Weekly News on Tuesday morning from now on. It works better for the staff schedule.

-*Dana Deaton*

### Staying Connected

*Please share this email with your friends!*



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