

THE VISITOR

The Congregational Church of Austin United Church of Christ

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Rev. Amelia Fulbright



CLOSE to
HOME

“What Does Advent Have To Do With Roe?”

In my household, in addition to the birth of Jesus observed on December 25, we have two more birthdays between Dec. 21 and Dec. 26. This year **Vivienne** will turn seven years old on the 21st—the winter solstice—and **Jonathan** will turn, well, older on the 26th. Every year around this time, I look to the heavens and complain to The Management that someone up there should have thought this through! The logistical challenges posed by being a pastor during Advent, a season of preparation, and a mom/wife preparing two birthday celebrations—well, let’s just say that I’ll be taking a little time off once the Christ Child appears.

Being pregnant during Advent 2014 brought the scriptures about **Mary** to life for me in new ways. For one thing, I realized just how many of our traditional Advent readings focus in on the reproductive lives of the biblical characters—**Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, and Zechariah**. This especially is true in Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary and its selections from the Gospel of Luke, which we are reading here in 2021. There are stories of both infertility and unexpected pregnancy, miraculous conception involving no men!, and the agency and centrality of women is on display more than usual in our sacred story. It’s easy to sanitize these stories and distill them into lofty theological claims about saviors and divinity, but the stories are rooted in the capacity of real flesh and blood women to labor and sweat and bleed for the coming of a new kind of Kin-dom and a new kind of life—or not.

The fact that we are wading through these Advent readings while the reproductive rights of actual women, transgender men, and nonbinary folks in Texas have been seriously eroded, and while the SCOTUS holds the fate of Roe V Wade in its grasp, the fact that we are facing all of this now is strangely horrific and thematically consistent all at once.

You may be aware that I have been involved in reproductive justice work for quite some time now, since 2013 when **Wendy Davis** gave her famous filibuster on the floor of the Texas Legislature, in a valiant effort to block what would become one in a series of dozens of bills put forth by politicians trying to slowly but surely outlaw abortion altogether. The reproductive justice framework is about building a world where pregnant people have REAL choices about whether to carry a fetus to term, and when they so choose, a reproductive justice world is one in which they have the support and resources to raise children who can flourish well into adulthood. In Texas, we have neither the full right to choose abortion afforded to us by Roe, nor do we have a system of comprehensive sex education, accessible contraception, adequate healthcare, and economic opportunity necessary to support new life for lower income women. The situation is urgent—for pregnant people who cannot afford to travel for abortion care and for the frontline healthcare providers doing their

cont. on next page

best to navigate the barrage of legal challenges to their daily work. **This issue hits “close to home,” just as our Advent narratives do.** It’s not an exaggeration to say that the house is on fire for reproductive freedom in Texas!

This is why I have been devoting a significant chunk of time to my advocacy work since early September. If I had been given a choice about timing, I would have opted for this legal crisis to be unfolding at a time when I’m not also learning the ropes as your Transitional Pastor and preparing to lead this congregation through big conversations about our facilities and our future. *But the call of God on our lives doesn’t always come when it’s comfortable or convenient.* I am including some links here to some of the more public work moments I’ve had recently, so you can be aware of what your pastor is up to and where my passions lie on this issue. Coming in January and leading up to our annual meeting, I am working on a way for us to have some congregational conversations about the potential of becoming a Reproductive Freedom Congregation. Please keep an eye out for those details.

[Profile Piece in The Cut \(New York Magazine\)](#)

[Radio Interview on The Texas Standard](#)

[TV Interview with Zerlina. on Peacock](#)

One of the things that can happen for those of us who don’t have to worry about an unplanned pregnancy, or finances, or bear the burden of race-related stress, or worry about vulnerability to gender violence, or gang violence, or famine, or war is that we can become insulated from the sense of urgency that people who struggle on a daily basis for survival *never can opt out of*. This is one definition of privilege—the luxury of being able to turn away from crises that have no immediate effect on our own lives. The problem is that, in our complacency, we contribute unintentionally to the suffering of others, and we also lose out on our own liberation.

Do we have a sense of urgency about the things that really matter? This is a central question posed to us by the Advent/Christmas season—in the midst of all the holly and jolly, will we position ourselves in solidarity with women, and the unsheltered, and those outcast because of race or ethnicity, nationality, or class? *Will we huddle up with them around the manger, not out of pious charity, but because we know that this is where Love is born?*

None of us can single-handedly save the world, but the Savior coming into our world (and his Mother **Mary**, in her Magnificat) compels us to shift our gaze to the core conflicts of this moment, to take care that we are not distracted by more trivial concerns. Advent reminds us to stay awake and pay attention. I’m trying, and I know you are, too.

With the Love and Joy of the Season,

Amelia

January Visitor Deadline December 22, 2021

Church Leadership

Deacons Chair	Jen Howicz
Outreach Team	open
Moderator	Joy Penticuff
Treasurer	Gail Christeson
Financial Secretary	Jaime Hadley
Christian Education Coordinators	open
Youth Sunday School	open
Clerk	Reuel Nash
Historians	Pat & Mel Oakes
Webmaster	Mel Oakes
Member-At-Large	Bill Beardall

Heart of Texas Association News
December
by Nikki Stahl

Friends, it is hard to believe that **Advent** is upon us, followed quickly by Christmas. During the Advent and Christmas season, we journey through scriptures and rituals that are tender, heavy with emotion, and vulnerable. We carry the memories and truths of this season close to our hearts. I invite you to follow along on Facebook (www.facebook.com/HOTA.UCC) as we journey together through the “already but not yet” tension of our faith: Emmanuel is with us, and yet, God’s promised day—our everlasting home—is not fully realized utilizing material from Sanctified Art (sanctifiedart.org). Especially for our clergy, I hope you find space and time to walk through these seasons in addition to leading others through them.

I’m grateful for the opportunities in November to visit in-person with Rev. **Dan DeLeon** (Friends College Station), Rev. **Darrin Holub** (St. John’s Burton), Pastor **Rene Slataper** (Hope United Georgetown), Rev. **Crystal Silva-McCormick** (Church of the Savior Cedar Park), Rev. **Ryan Hart** (Open Cathedral), Rev. **Enid Ross** (retired chaplain), Rev. **Arlene Turner** (Bethany San Antonio), and Rev. **Eric Gates** (Faith United Bryan). Lots of different, yet exciting, life-changing things are happening in each of these local churches and the communities that they serve. I look forward to finding Sundays to worship with you and learning more about how God is working through you.

Please remember that **Annual Meeting Planning** is underway. We would love to have a representative from each church involved in our planning. The dates have been set for Friday, May 27th - Sunday, May 19th (with Worship Service/Installation live streamed for your congregations) at Camp Allen. Contact me if you are interested. It is never too late to chip in and help.

Also, don’t miss out on various celebrations and news events being posted on the **Heart of Texas Association Facebook Page** (www.facebook.com/HOTA.UCC) (Instagram, Twitter coming). Some November recognitions included church anniversaries, ordination anniversaries, clergy birthdays, new calls, special local church events/accomplishments, and more! Send us pictures and updates about how you are transforming lives in your local communities so

we can celebrate with you and share with the wider Association!

Remember too that 2021 **church contributions to the Association** are due by December 31st so that our Treasurer, **Joe Ward**, can close our books.

Finally, words cannot even begin to express the joy of this first month of ministry with you. **I feel so honored to be on the journey with each and every one of you.**

Peace,
Rev. **Nikki Stahl**

Personals by Pat Oakes

Pastor **Amelia Fulbright** shares that it was pretty cool to receive an actual physical award (the Faith and Justice Award) on Saturday evening, Nov. 13th, at a small COVID-safe reception with the Texas Freedom Network. She wants us to know, however, that her life is not all accolades and glamorous parties. Just as she and **Jonathan** were leaving their kids with the babysitter to go downtown, **George** threw up all his supper. She had to wrap him in a towel, so she could hug him good-bye without getting vomit on her dress. Ha! Fortunately, **George** was feeling better the next day. Certainly, the babysitter got a few accolades, too!



11/13/21 Pastor Amelia Fulbright and her husband Jonathan Zercher at the Texas Freedom Network reception where she was honored with an award

By the time you have received this, you may have already been back to in-person services at the church (currently set for Nov. 28, the first Sunday of Advent). If you haven't seen it or want to know more about what is going on inside the sanctuary, check out our Director of On-Line Ministries **Kyle Riley's** YouTube tour of the new equipment—

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAT2ygDDA-g>.

The trio (**Amy Harris**, **Jonathan Geer**, and **Liz Lee**) also helped with the process by presenting a short concert on Sunday evening, Nov. 14—an op-

portunity for folks to hear beautiful music and an opportunity for **Amelia**, **Kyle**, and the trio to work on the acoustics. Listeners at home were able to help also commenting on volume, clarity, camera angles, too.



11/14/21 The trio Amy Harris (violin), Jonathan Geer (piano), and Liz Lee (cello) presented an on-line concert on YouTube to check out our new sound system.

Please continue with prayers for **Faye Dierksen**. Her pregnancy has not been an easy one and she is having to spend most of her time in bed. **Faye** is quick to reassure us that the baby-to-be is thriving as is **Deek**. Fortunately, her mom **Cameon Jacobson** (called **Grambu** by **Deek**) has stepped up and will be helping out for the duration. New baby **Dierksen** is due in mid-April.



11/15/21 Cameon (Grambu) Jacobson with her grandson Deek who was going to the dentist for the first time

Personals (cont)
by Pat Oakes

Chester Rosson has a cancerous tumor in his digestive tract. He has come to Austin for treatment with Texas Oncology, as the family didn't feel he was getting the best care in East Texas. At first it looked as though he would have surgery first, but instead he will start with chemotherapy. He had his first treatment just before Thanksgiving and is so far feeling fine. However, he has had to have multiple blood transfusions, and that may continue for some time. People are welcome to call him on his cell phone, (936) 204-1655. If he doesn't answer, it probably means he is in the middle of treatment. **Chester** recently spent 2 1/2 weeks in the hospital for various issues but is very glad to be back at **Barbara's** apartment. He can be reached by mail at **Barbara's** at 9505 Kempler Dr., Apt. A, Austin 78748.

Bill and Joan Mueller write, "Some of you remember our grandson **Luke Mueller-Oden** who regularly helped serve Christmas dinner to homeless people in our church neighborhood. He just graduated from George Washington University in D.C. with a double major in economics and public policy and is now employed at The Army Logistical Agency and will stay in the D.C. area. Our second grandchild, **Charlotte**, lives in California and just turned two. We see her via FaceTime and thrive on watching her change day by day. We look forward to having our three children and the families for the holidays. We saw **Catherine Hubbs** recently and she has the same positive spirit even at age 99! We wish Peace and Holiday blessings to all."

On Sunday, Nov. 21st, we held our first service in the sanctuary since the beginning of the pandemic. There were only a few people in the congregation as this was a tryout to see how the new equipment would work. Our last service at the church was on March 15, 2020--the Ides of March. Who knew what was coming down the pike? We learned for sure that on Sunday, the 21st, that the church had suffered a great loss. Those of you who were not at YouTube church on the 21st but have seen **Kyle's** video on our new equipment probably noticed that something beautiful was missing—our tapestry which has been part of our altar setting since it was dedicated on Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 6, 1980. As the pandemic approached, it was during Lent, and, as we usually do, the tapestry was taken down, rolled

up, carefully wrapped, and taken down and stored in the choir room. In ordinary times (which these most certainly are not), the tapestry would have been rehung the Sunday after Easter. At some later point, the choir room was broken into, and items were taken. It was not realized at the time that the tapestry was among the things that were gone. The whole church building has been thoroughly searched several times and it has become clear that it has been stolen by folks who probably had no clue what it was they had stolen. We are all grieving the loss of this iconic work of art created by local artist **O.Hinkel Johnson**. See the History Corner for more information on the history of the tapestry. It will take a while and a lot of thought to determine how to fill that so very empty space.



2010 The church tapestry, the altar centerpiece filled with all kinds of symbolism, was a part of the beauty of our sanctuary for a little over 40 years

The city of San Marcos celebrated Veterans Day a few days early with a parade on Saturday, November 6th. Lt. Colonel (retired) **George Caruthers** (who just turned 98 on 11/19!) was the Grand Marshall. **Marilyn Gaddis** reports that it was a blast to ride in **George's** godson Tyson Tuttle's

Personals (cont) by Pat Oakes

1955 Chevy Bel Air in the parade. On Veteran's Day, **George** had his "free" lunch at the 54th Street Restaurant in San Marcos. Yum! For more about **George**, go to <https://www.patandmeloakes.com/GeorgeCarruthers.html>



11/6//21 Lt. Col. (retired) George Carruthers with his godson Tyson Tuttle with George as grand marshal of the San Marcos Veteran's Day parade



11/6/21 Grand Marshal Lt. Col. (retired) George Carruthers flanked by his godson Tyson Tuttle and his wife Marilyn Gaddis



11/6/21 Tyson Tuttle driving his 1955 Chevy Bel Air in the San Marcos Veteran's Day parade--passengers including Grand Marshal George, Tyson's mom Jean Marie Tuttle, Tyson's son Scout and Marilyn

Ann Locasio shares, "I finally crossed an item off my bucket list after being a competitor in the **O. Henry** Pun-Off. It was enjoyable telling my "Meat Story" and nobody gave me the 'cold shoulder' or 'cut me off. To those who checked out my video and/or voted for me, 'shank' you for doing so. I didn't win anything but had an enormous amount of fun. Gratitude and kudos to **Rene Slataper** who filmed my video." To celebrate, **Ann** and a friend went to Breckenridge, CO. She continues, "My good friend and traveling companion sent me an email just before the trip and included the words, 'Giggle giggle.' However, we weren't laughing quite so hard after we were well underway, and she received a phone call that knocked out her GPS and we didn't realize it until....well, okay, we learned that it is possible to go from Austin to Amarillo via Midland and Odessa, but I don't recommend it. **George Strait** notwithstanding, we weren't sure we would even get to 'Amarillo by Morning.' But it was all worth it when we sampled great salads at the Colorado border and had salmon Benedict for breakfast in Breck, also taking in the souvenir shops and getting some of our Christmas shopping done there. One of the stores had a small ceramic piece in the window labeled, 'A Little Pot from Colorado.' The Blue River in Breckenridge lived up to its name and did not disappoint with its azure water flowing over giant rocks, and I will not forget the first look and first gasp as we looked out at the snow-capped mountains from our patio at the Airbnb. Watching the sun rise over the mountains as they tinged with pink while drinking our morning coffee was divine. That night, I used the Sky View app to observe Jupiter and Saturn from the same deck. The aspens were golden, the lakes frozen, and the wildlife left their tracks in the snow, challenging us to guess which animal had passed by. Altitude sickness can be a thing, but lots and lots of Ice Cubes peppermint gum, one after another while going through mountain passes got us through it. Lip balm and lotion came in handy too. We enjoyed the gondola ride up the mountain at Keystone Ski Resort, where a friendly young woman advised us to drink Gatorade or similar to replace electrolytes as a way of dealing with altitude issues. On that same gondola ride, we met two friendly young Asian men and their skis, whose faces lit up when we asked them about dispen-

Personals (cont)
by Pat Oakes

-saries. They weren't expecting that question from two people who looked like us, but we had a fabulous conversation after that when they figured out how cool we were. That's my take on it, anyway. My friend's daughter, **Sarah**, had educated us about 'Apple-Os' and 'Peach-Os' that you can buy at the dispensary and said, 'In Breckenridge, all you have to do is spit and you'll hit either a dispensary or a pothead.' Unfortunately, we ran out of time and never checked out a dispensary, but I learned a lot about them. On the way home we saw multiple billboards of Texas defense attorneys advertising their services for people who had been busted bringing pot back across state lines. Being on top of the world at Keystone Resort, watching the skiers and snowboarders zipping by us, was amazing as my boots crunched their way across the snowy plain to where the ski runs began. My friend and I later had an amazing meal featuring Wagyu beef at an executive-chef-owned restaurant called Ember. We took leftovers away in small boxes and had them as a picnic lunch on the way home. The picnic area was in the Panhandle, above the freeway. There was nothing there to stop the wind, so I held onto that precious piece of Wagyu beef for dear life. I didn't lose it, but by the time the wind was done with my hair, I had both a mohawk and a giant cowlick in front that looked like a tuft of grass."

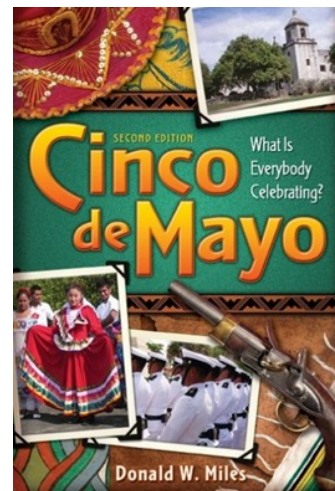


11/6/21 Ann Locasio's view from the top of the Keystone Ski Resort

Betty Phillips and her daughter **Katy** had a wonderful 2 week get-away to North Carolina and Virginia Beach, VA. **Katy** drove, and **Betty** helped

navigate. While it was rainier than they might have wished at the beach, they enjoyed good food, good friends, and enjoyed several dips in the ocean. While they were gone, daughter **Stephanie** took care of the animals at **Katy's** place which was a huge help. **Stephanie's** partner **Kathy Weiner** is undergoing her 2nd round of chemo and is doing OK so far. Keep her in your prayers.

Congratulations to **Don Miles**. He recently received two awards from American Book Fest, whose major donors include outfits like Harper Collins, Penguin Random House, Macmillan, NYU, Johns Hopkins and Oxford University Presses and hundreds of smaller and independent publishers. More than 400 winners and finalists were announced in over 90 categories from over 2,000 entries. His two awards were: (1) Finalist for Best Interior Design, and (2) Finalist for Best Military History. The cover won a graphics award a few years ago, before the book itself was finished. The title of this book is *Cinco de Mayo: What is Everybody Celebrating? (2nd Ed.)* The big differences between this book and the original edition from 2006 are color photographs in every chapter and a set of maps to help readers navigate the story. **Don's** late wife (Dr. **Minerva Miles**) and **Don** took many of the photos throughout Mexico over several decades. A couple of small additions to the text included a French colonel's essay on the beauty of Mexican women and a paragraph about 500 *Tejanos* who rode from Texas to Puebla and joined the Mexican cavalry just in time for the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.



The cover of Don Miles' 2nd edition of Cinco de Mayo; What Is Everybody Celebrating?

Personals (cont) by Pat Oakes



2020 A photo of Don Miles with his mannequin of Gen. Ignacio Zaragoza, the general who led the Mexican forces who defeated the French invaders at the battle of Puebla

Beth Gleason reports, "The move (to Maine) to get cancer care here has had its ups and downs. I have a very good cancer team in my three docs and nurse navigators, but the pace of care here is much slower than TX. This has been very frustrating. Briefly, I spent September getting more tests which finally led to the decision to have more surgery i.e., removing more lymph nodes from my right armpit to check for more cancer (the 2 lymph nodes removed in TX were CA positive). My oncology surgeon wanted to send me to Boston to see a specialist who has invented a new technique to relieve lymphedema, a post-operative condition that is long term and painful. The surgery was scheduled for October and then cancelled unexpectedly, so I wrote a self-advocacy letter of concern, and the response was that my surgeon had cancelled it because there was another patient 'who was sicker than me.' It was then re-scheduled eventually to Nov. 16. I have connected with old friends and family here which has become a wonderful in-person support team. I have travelled too - to see the Red Sox play in Chicago, on a sailing trip off the coast of Maine (thanks, **Whit!**) and down to Cape Cod for an arts festival. I also volunteer at a local food bank and have attended several UCC churches, plus I will start doing pulpit supply over the holidays. I could be busy every Sunday if I wanted to because there's a serious pastor shortage here. It will be good to get back in the pulpit. Let me say that becoming a 'pink warrior' has opened and expanded my ideas (and

hopefully practice) of hospital chaplaincy. Fighting cancer is my full-time job now. And once you have cancer you have left the comfort of your familiar world and become part of a sub-culture peopled with others like yourself. This has been a major emotional, physical, and spiritual adjustment. But there is hope and support (I use the Dempsey Center - Google it - it's fantastic so please share this cancer support resource with others). And finally, there is love...and each of you represent that love to me." **Beth** made it safely through her surgery and is now waiting for the pathology reports and, we hope, for a good result with the lymphedema issue. Keep her in your prayers. Here is an update on **Beth** as of Nov. 24th. Twenty-five lymph nodes were removed during her surgery, and they were all non-cancerous. She may have to have some radiation, but that has not been set yet. Prayers continue, **Beth!!**

Priscilla Crowell Perkins Grew (whose father served on the H-T faculty and was a member of the church in the late 1950s and 1960s, and who is a distant cousin of **Pat Oakes**) received an award from the DAR in September. You can learn about her award and what **Priscilla** is doing these days by going to <https://www.facebook.com/pgrew/videos/559874755296943>

Jaana Rehbein writes from Germany wishing us all well. She is thinking of all of us every day, but she finds that she has been pretty exhausted recently mentally and physically. Germany has been running into the 4th Covid-19 virus wave in the past weeks, desperately trying to convince another 15 million people to take their vaccinations with little success. Daughter **Ella** (11 years old already!) is fine. In her class it is her job to remind the teacher to open the window every 20 minutes (for enhanced air-circulation) the temperatures around 8 degrees Celsius (about 46 degrees Fahrenheit). **Jaana** is glad **Ella** has her desk just for herself because her desk mate moved to France. Two families from her class have actually moved abroad finding the regulations in Germany too harsh. They wish them a wonderful time and are glad they are gone as they were unvaccinated.

Richard Jackson and **Mary Sinclair** have been busy in spite of COVID. They are doing fine in Heidelberg, Ontario. **Mary** notes that **Richard** is working on a big carbon capture project (he only pre-

Personals (cont) by Pat Oakes

tended to retire!) and raking leaves in his spare time. She is playing tennis 6-7 hours a week and working part time with a couple of nursing home residents and being project manager for the sunroom they're building on to the back of the house -- a difficult project during Covid! **Mary** says wryly, "It's a project we wanted to do a few years ago but put it off for one reason or another. We wanted to wait until any home renovation projects doubled in cost due to Covid! It will be another year or so before I venture back to Palm Springs, so I'll have to get my winter sunshine here at home."



11/7/21 Richard Jackson checking out the new tile floor in the sunroom they have added on to their house

David and Edith Scott live in Strathaven very near to Glasgow. They were part of our church family in the mid-1980s. Recently, **Edith** noticed that lots of arrangements were in place for United Nations COP26 conference on climate change. Roads were closed around the venue for the duration to enhance security. Police Scotland had plans in place to ensure peaceful protests could happen, but they made it clear that less peaceful protesting would not be tolerated. **Edith** sends prayers that the conference will be a success and help to save our planet for our grandchildren. We all echo that, **Edith!!**

There was definitely joy and hope in the air at church on Sunday, Nov. 28, the first Sunday of Advent. We were all wearing masks, but you could just feel the smiles.



11/28/21 The congregation finally back at church on the first Sunday of Advent--note that we are all smiling (behind our masks)! Group on the left--Pat and Mel Oakes, Lynn Chavarria, Joy Penticuff, Bill Beardall, Ann Locasio; back--Kay Pruet, Reuel, Liz, and Annie Nash, Nancy Edison, Betty and Whit Bodman, Pastor Amelia Fulbright; front--Debby Kohrt, Warinda Harris, Sarah Darter, Pam Tucker, Alden Harris, Sara and Dave Ross (somehow Gail Christeson, John Goff, and Kevin Dietz missed the photo op but they were definitely there)



11/28/21 Pam Tucker, Joy Penticuff, Lynn Chavarria, and Gail Christeson among the congregation as Pastor Amelia welcomed us--finally--back to church (decorated for Advent)--in her new capacity as transitional pastor

For some wonderful holiday cheer, play this link taken several years ago of the congregation singing "Jesus, Oh What A Wonderful Child!" <https://congregationalchurchofaustin.org/ministry/music-and-fine-arts/>

History Corner by Pat & Mel Oakes

At a recent on-line church meeting about the future of our church, some folks were asking questions about our past. **Mel and Pat Oakes** have created a church history Web site which many of you might find interesting. There is a great deal of information on the site. It is best accessed by using a computer—not your phone. Here is the church history link <https://www.patandmeloakes.com/PatandMelOakesFamilySite/CCAHistory/>

The church history Web site has a number of wonderful links. Here is one that is particularly timely—the church Christmas pageant in December 2002—“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.” You’ll see lots of familiar (much younger) faces and hear lovely Christmas music. Enjoy! <https://www.patandmeloakes.com/PatandMelOakesFamilySite/CCAHistory/Images-ChurchSite/BestXmasPageantEver.m4v>

Below you will see some information from the site about the tapestry—using annual reports as the source (contributed by Dave Ross).

1. Election of Officers ✓	
2. Discussion and Vote on construction of offices on the third floor and leasing to United Campus Ministry. \$28,000 5-year lease, 10-yr. loan	
3. Tapestry to be loaned on occasion? To O Hinkle Johnson, 1 time.	They pay utilities &
4. Use of Memorial Fund to purchase candle holders? Motion carried.	
5. 1980 Budget.	
6. Any other business? (Committee to revise Constitution?)	

From the 1979 Church Annual Report

Perhaps the highlight of both the old and the new year is the work of the church renovation committee. The woodwork and the wall hanging are now in place, and a dedication service was held on Jan. 6, 1980. The committee worked long and hard to bring this about. Special thanks are due to Dawn DeLong, Vic Appel, and O Hinkle Johnson for the thoughts which they brought to the dedication service.

From the 1979 Church Annual Report (Hink’s last name is misspelled—it should be Hinkel)

Memorial Funds, Pulpit & Altar Cloths	1,071.50	
Third Floor Mortgage	3,596.76	32,
Tapestry	817.00	
Fans	1,144.52	
Third Floor Finishing	29,251.13	
Faith Food Pantry	167.60	
	<u>48,41</u>	

From the 1980 Annual Report

We commissioned O. Hinkle Johnson to design and make pulpit falls and altar frontals using the Memorial Fund. We now have red and purple ones, but we lack white and green. Because we lacked money in the Memorial Fund until recently, we did not commission the while and had a delay on the green. We now have the means of proceeding with the project. Our thanks to our Renovation Committee and particularly Jean Cassel and Eunice Paul for their work and obtaining the globes for the lights on the fans. Jim Busic deserves a pat on the back for installing the globes one Saturday.

From the 1980 Annual Report (Hink’s last name should be spelled Hinkel)

History Corner by Pat & Mel Oakes, cont.

ADDENDUM: RENOVATION PROJECT: An inquiry from the Board of Trustees regarding paraments and light globes was passed on to the Deacons, whose chairwoman called the Renovation Committee together. Mr. O. Hinkle Johnson met with the Committee and designs were approved for four sets of paraments. The fabric for three sets had been purchased earlier. At this time the purple and red sets are made, and the green set is being sewn. The Committee has requested a firm price on a white set which several church members have suggested as appropriate for special occasions in the liturgical year. Special thanks are due Eunice Paul for searching city wide for a type of globe desired by the committee but which proved to be nonexistent. Committee members, particularly Eunice and Jean, agreed to settle for what was available and inexpensive and would cover the bare bulbs which had blinded us for too long. -Jean Cassel, Chairwoman.

From the 1980 Annual Report (Hink's last name should be spelled Hinkel)

For more information about the tapestry, its history, the symbolism, and the restoration project undertaken in 2012 is at the following link <https://www.patandmeloakes.com/PatandMelOakesFamilySite/CCAHistory/Tapestry.html>