

State of the Church

Quarterly Report to the Congregation
Submitted 17 May 2026 by Timothy Steele



Mission: To lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Vision: To be a church where unchurched and churched people love to attend.

- **Environments:**

- **Worship**

- Upcoming Special Services:
 - Pentecost/Confirmation – May 24;
 - July 5 – Freedom Sunday (shorter service in conjunction with “Bring a Dish Give a Pan” potluck and support for Good Shepherd Center.
- July 12, 19, 26, August 30 local retired pastors will lead worship while Timothy is serving on Air Force active duty.

- **Kids and students**

- **Pingo Land and Xtreme** – June 7 is last Sunday before summer break. Thank you to Debbie Irgens, Dierdre Condore, Isabel Steele for leading Pingo Land. Many thanks to Sarah Vitt who has led Xtreme and our middle and high school students for 10 years – she has decided to step out of this role.
- **Confirmation** – Everett Erickson, Michael Steele, and Joseph Ziemann will confirm their faith on May 24. Evan Bliese, Elle Penninger and Addisson Wiles have completed their first year.

- **Adults**

- **Converge** – On break until the Fall. Many thanks to all the leaders who provided thoughtful biblical studies and discussions.
- **Short-Term Grief Care** – Working on bringing a new type of care to lead people through grief when they experience the loss of a loved one. This care may happen in a group setting talking and discussing through grief or by one-to-one mentoring. We want to provide a supportive environment to work through grief.

- **Endearment** – The win for ENDEARMENT is making a first step for people to experience Jesus for themselves seeing our church support our community. We want the people and organizations in our community: to know we’re here, happy we’re here, and better off because we’re here. We partner, not pioneer.
 - January 1st quarter gifts: Welcome Home Angel (helping kids with disabilities) [LOCAL-Leland]; \$5K to Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch – children and families to help with trials [NATIONAL-North Dakota]

- Provided and served chili dinner to veterans at Good Shepherd Center-Ashley House [Wilmington] using 2026 Chili Cook-Off winner recipe.
 - (April) Snack Pack packing for Nourish NC [Wilmington] after service in Fellowship Hall. Full congregation activity.
 - (May) Serving Welcome Home Angel [Leland] to improve home improvements for a child with disabilities.
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- **New Member Orientation** – Welcomed four families to our church family in March: Robin Lamb, Donna Mitchell, Tom and Gigi Taylor, Brett and Kayla Suits. Scheduling a core orientation in June for three new families.
 - **Cambridge Village Worship Services** – 30-minute service provided once a month for residents of the assisted facility located in Mayfair. Average 10-20 in attendance.
 - **Air Force Active Duty** – I continue in my assignment as an Individual Reservist, Command Chaplain for the Air Force Reserve, (AFRC – Air Force Reserve Command), headquartered at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.