



**A Place to Call Home  
Sermon and Faith Formation  
Series  
October 8 - November 5, 2023**

**Sermon Series:**

- October 8: *Seek the Good of the City* - Jeremiah 29: 4-7
- October 15: *They Will Build Houses* - Isaiah 65: 17-25
- October 22 : *Be Doers of the Word* - Luke 6: 46-49
- October 29: *Room for No One But You* - Isaiah 5: 8-10,  
Luke 4: 16-21

**Faith Formation: Join us for presentations  
and discussions in the Chapel, 10am**

October 8: Bruce Rich, Director, Center for Housing and Community Studies at UNC-G, will provide context and overview of affordable housing issues in our community

October 15: Michelle Kennedy, Director of the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development for the City of Greensboro, will share information from Greensboro's current and future plans to address affordable housing concerns

October 22: Drennan Paylor, Supervisor of Homeless Services and Community Support for GCS, will help us to understand the problems faced by children and their families who lack adequate housing

October 29: Hugh Holston from the Greensboro Housing Coalition and David Kolosieke, President and CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Greensboro, will speak about the efforts that non-profit groups are making to provide a range of solutions

November 5: Ernie Thompson will lead a panel discussion on a variety of church-backed initiatives related to affordable housing. Participating churches include Caldwell Presbyterian in Charlotte represented by Reverend Gail Henderson-Belsito and Merrillyn Gill, Covenant Presbyterian of Charlotte represented by Joe Taylor, and the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit in Greensboro represented by Gail Stroud.



**Affordable Housing  
Initiatives  
at  
Westminster**



***Responding to the needs  
of our community is Biblical.***

***But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into  
exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you  
will find your welfare.***

**Jeremiah 29:7**



Westminster has a long history of working to provide safe, affordable housing. For more than 25 years, we've supported and worked along side Habitat for Humanity of Greensboro, built homes in Mexico, and improved homes in the mountains of Virginia through ASP (Appalachia Service Project). Yet the need continues.

**Did you know...**

- In Greensboro, the poverty rate increased from 7.8% in 2021 to 12.4% in 2022. A significantly housing-burdened household is defined as needing more than 50% of disposable income to cover housing costs. Needs such as medical care, healthy food options, and adequate childcare often go unmet.
- In Greensboro, an annual income of \$32,400 (\$15.58/hour) is needed in order to afford a studio apartment.
- In 2020, there was a shortage of 4,100 housing units for households earning \$30,000 per year or less. That shortage is projected to increase to 11,000 by the year 2030.\*\*

Westminster has joined the **Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative** with 10 other faith communities to increase access to permanent housing for children and their families by working with local partners to create and maintain affordable housing.



\*\* These statistics are found in Cone Health's 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment and the City of Greensboro's Housing



**How is Westminster responding?**

- Listening and Learning** – to understand needs and discover opportunities to use our resources to address the affordable housing crisis in our community
- Building New Homes** – through partnership with Habitat for Humanity and by looking for church properties for new development
- Preserving Current Affordable Housing** – through partnerships with the Community Housing Solutions and the City of Greensboro
- Supporting Individual Families** – by walking alongside families and helping them overcome obstacles to get into safe, affordable housing
- Advocating** – for affordable housing working in our community along with other faith communities in the Interfaith Affordable Housing Initiative
- Praying** – for God to lead and direct our efforts and to give us success as we seek the welfare of our city and our neighbors

**How can you get involved?**

**Habitat for Humanity Workday**  
Saturday, October 28, 8:30-3:30 pm



**Housing Summit 2023**  
**Greensboro Housing Coalition**  
Thursday, October 26, 2023 8am-2pm  
1921 West Gate City Boulevard, 27403  
Registration is required. See [westpreschurch.org/place-to-call-home](http://westpreschurch.org/place-to-call-home)

**Community Housing Solutions Workday**  
Saturday, November 18  
8:30-3:30 pm



Watch the website for more opportunities.