

**COVID-19 Update:** Our Binkley Baptist Church building will remain closed for general use through December 31, 2020. The pandemic remains a frightening and invisible health menace, particularly for vulnerable groups. The Church values the safety of our congregation above all else. Binkley remains active on many fronts in spite of the Covid threat, and our Sundays are filled with inspirational hours originating from Binkley, and we are blessed with these levels of connection. This message is to let you know that we intend to refrain from opening our building to internal or external groups until things improve.

Two exceptions that we need to make you aware of are the use of the Church as an Orange County polling place on Tuesday, November 3rd, and the return of KidScope Early Learning Center on Monday, October 12th. The Orange County Board of Elections has been working diligently to develop protocols to keep both their poll workers and voters safe while participating in election day.

A Reopening Work Group was appointed in August to examine appropriate procedures for allowing both KidSCOpe and the Binkley Preschool to return to our campus. This group worked closely with both organizations to determine safety protocols and sanitizing procedures. The Preschool made the decision recently to postpone its opening until mid-January so having both groups operating simultaneously is not an issue at this time.

The Chapel Hill Training Outreach Project (CHTOP), which is the oversight agency for KidSCOpe, has developed comprehensive safety and health protocols in accordance with Orange County Public Health guidelines. Additionally, the Binkley Reopening Work Group also came up with its own internal guidelines for dropoff and pickup of children as well as what it deemed to be the safest use of space. We value our relationship with KidSCOpe and the community that it serves and so the Center will be returning to Binkley on October 12th and will be the only occupants in the Education Wing.

If anyone has questions about the reopening of our building please contact Susan Preston, Building Use Committee Chair, at [susanmpreston@yahoo.com](mailto:susanmpreston@yahoo.com).

*Joe Templeton, Moderator*

*Susan Preston, Building Use Committee Chair*

*Marcus McFaul, Senior Minister*