

CHAPEL

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building. The new church was designed by Shaw Design Associates in Chapel Hill, N.C., and the total cost of construction is \$1.7 million. In order to save money on construction, many of the church members invested a considerable amount of "sweat equity" instead of relying solely on the general contractor.

No nails were used in the construction of the church's unique sanctuary framing. Instead, 800 wood pegs were used in an ancient technique that locks together all of the timber-frame components. It was especially popular when and where iron nails weren't available, or were too costly.

The final framing section of the sanctuary was erected on the rainy morning of August 6 and, despite the foul weather, more than 60 church members and supporters came out to observe the event. Chapel in the Pines currently has more than 125 members.

Origination of the design came from the church's building committee, which wanted "Chapel in the Pines [to reflect] God's majesty by being in harmony with its surroundings, welcoming to its community and aesthetically original." Keith Shaw, the architect, said that spaces were created to encourage interaction, contemplation and worship.

The entrance facade of the sanctuary building suggests both the Gothic arches used in many traditional church buildings, especially Europe, and tall pine trees on either side of the covered entrance doors with their branches reaching skyward. All of the interior windows in the sanctuary reflect this same inspiring design.

The main building houses the sanctuary, narthex, kitchen, storage and other service spaces. An education wing houses the pastor's and administrative offices, four classrooms, a library/classroom and other service facilities. Future plans are to build a fellowship wing as a mirror plan of the education wing, connected by a new circular entrance courtyard.

The new church is environmentally friendly. For example, installation of chemical-free structural insulated panels will reduce heat loss by up to 60 percent (compared with traditional wood-frame construction), improve interior air quality, and require less heating and air-conditioning. The wood used in the construction was grown in managed timberlands in North Carolina and required less electricity to produce than comparable structural steel beams.

Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church is an inclusive congregation; everyone is welcome. Child care is provided during services, which are held every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school for

all ages at 9 a.m.

More information and photographs of the new church are available on the church's website at www.citppc.org.

Directions: To get to Chapel in the Pines from Chapel Hill, one would drive south on U.S. Hwy 15-501 to Manns Chapel Road, then turn right and go about a mile to the water tower at Great Ridge Pkwy (just past Chapel Hill Bed & Breakfast on the right). After turning left onto Great Ridge, go nearly a half mile to Chapel in the Pines on the right. From Pittsboro, one would drive north on U.S. Hwy 15-501 to Manns Chapel Road and then turn left before following the same directions above.

Design & Construction Credits: Architect, Shaw Design Associates, PA, Chapel Hill, NC; Structural Engineer, Engineering Tech, PA, Raleigh, NC; Civil Engineer, Earth Centric Engineering, Inc., Mebane, NC; PME Engineer (plumbing, mechanical and electrical), Lighthouse Engineering, Raleigh, NC; General Contractor, C.T. Wilson Construction Co., Inc., Durham, NC; Timber Frame Contractor, Dreaming Creek Timber Frame Homes, Inc., Powhatan, VA

Dale Chodorow is owner and general manager of Chodorow Promotions, a marketing services agency. He and his wife have lived in Chatham County since February 1998, and are members of Chapel in the Pines. He can be contacted at dmchodorow@bell-south.net or 968.8985.

GENERAL STORE

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interaction. The Friday evening series is an extension of The Mayor's Jam, which Pittsboro Mayor Randy Voller has been offering in his home for six years, and has recently begun bringing to The General Store Cafe on First Fridays and other local businesses such as The City Tap on select evenings, in order to increase community involvement and encourage local support of local businesses.

The Mayor's Jam includes a rotating cast of the region's finest musicians who meld their collective influences into a uniquely entertaining ensemble. Internationally acclaimed visual artist Marcelle Pachnowski adds to the fun by creating one-of-a-kind visual representations of the music while it is being performed. The hope of these community based events is that artists of all kinds (visual, performance/dance, and musical) will be inspired to consider the Black Bird Bar as a bit of a late night living room for our community, where all can come together and share their talents, or just enjoy. In Mayor Randy Voller's own words, "the intention is to create space for artists, musicians, dancers, writers, photographers, videographers, and essentially performers of any type to get together in an open environment, enjoy each other's company, and create. Of course non-performers are always welcome to join us for the experience and the camaraderie.

"Philosophically, the intention is to merge locavore and local culture and create a model that can be replicated and utilized in communities around the world. Food and culture are connected, and by supporting what we can create in our local and regional communities, we grow stronger, gain insight into the dynamics of food and energy production, as well as the expression of local culture that cannot be simply repackaged and resold at the BigBox Mart."

Every Second Friday is the Talent Showdown, where participants are invited to showcase their talents, whatever they may be. The crowd decides who advances, and



the winner receives a cash prize at the end of the night. This gives local residents a chance to gain exposure and stage experience while honing their performance skills.

Third Friday brings the NC Songwriter's Showcase, hosted by Kirk Ridge, of the NC Songwriter's Co-op. The first half of the night showcases some of the area's most talented songwriters, while the second half is interactive,

encouraging others to take the stage and perform their own original music. The songwriter's showcase is a great example of how The General Store is helping to enrich the artistic culture of our region by presenting these songwriters and encouraging their collaboration.

This encouragement and development of our regional musical traditions is also embraced with the Black Bird Blues Jam, which takes place on the Fourth Friday of each month. Hosted by Chatham resident and Blues-Master Gregory Blaine, these jams give local musicians the opportunity to come together to perform and advance North Carolina Blues. Ira Planer of Burriss Amps and NC Blues in the School, and Tony Sullivan of Pittsboro's Sullivan Music, have come together to support this community effort with generous donations of quality equipment so that these opportunities can take place.

Saturdays continue to offer live music during the dinner hours, now followed by late night entertainment from great regional bands from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. All of the expanded late night offerings include a new late night menu and drink specials, with a goal of encouraging Chathamites to enjoy their evenings in-town, both supporting the local economy and avoiding a long ride home.

Chatham County is known for a passion and dedication to the fundamental principals behind sustainability and community. The goal of these new, free Friday and Saturday night community events, is to work together with local artists, entertainers, and organizations, to offer exciting opportunities for community interaction, while encouraging the free expression and exchange of artistic ideas. Lets help sustain and cultivate our artistic community, so that it can help sustain our local culture, identity, and economy.

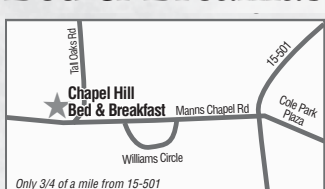
Details of The Gen's new offerings can be viewed at www.CircleCityLateNite.com.

Justin Johnson is a professional musician and board member of the Chatham County Arts Council, along with his partner Nikki Jaeger. Together they organize local music and events as Dynamo Muse Productions. www.DynamoMuseProductions.com



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