

# CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



"That They May All Be One"

August 30, 2006

Bi-Weekly Issue

Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
400 West Radiance Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27403

Rev. Julie Peeples,  
Senior Pastor

Rev. William C. Smith,  
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Paul Davis,  
Minister for Christian  
Education

Mr. Woodson Faulkner,  
Music Director/Organist

Ms. Charlotte Evans,  
Congregational Nurse

Ms. Sarah Downey, Dir.  
Children's Music/  
Bella A Cappella

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Church Phone:  
336-274-5378/274-0838  
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Website:  
[www.congregationalucc.com](http://www.congregationalucc.com)

Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Sunday Service: 11:00 am

Ministries:

Bible Study  
Children & Adult Choir  
Handbell Choir  
Youth Programs  
Women's Fellowship  
Adult Fun Club  
Outreach Programs



Our prayers and sympathies go out to the family of Clara (Joni) Rountree, a longtime member of our congregation, who passed away on Friday, August 25 at Friends Homes.

Services were held at our church on Monday, August 28 with Rev. Peeples officiating.

To my church friends,

My family and I sincerely appreciate the many acts of kindness expressed to us over the two years of Donovan's illness. Also, great generosity of spirit was shown to us at the time of his death in July. We will always remember your thoughtfulness.

Dorothy Darnell



My family and I thank you for your prayers, cards and visits to Joe during his illness, and to us after his death. He wasn't able to attend church toward the last of his life, but always felt your caring and love. We thank you.

Evelyn Ridge & Family

## TREXLER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Our congratulations go out to several of our church members who were awarded Trexler Scholarships for their music lessons this year. Awards were presented at worship on June 4.

Camille Prairie—Piano  
Jeffrey Karnes—Guitar  
Rebecca Moore-Painter—Cello  
Luke Witham—Guitar  
Mary Grace Witham—Voice



## From your Pastor

She's baaaaack. Hard to believe the sabbatical time has come and gone, but I am back and ready to begin again. As you will hear in worship and at Supper Study on September 13, I had a marvelous time. My days were filled with reading, journaling, long walks, interesting conversations – all at a relaxed pace. The blessings were many, and I trust that much of what has been percolating will surface in some new ideas (now don't groan till you hear them!!) and the renewed energy with which I gladly return. And I am anxious to catch up with you: what's happened in your lives? What's new? Where has the road taken you? Where have you experienced the Divine Presence in the midst of your summer days?

Let's join our stories, our ideas, our energies and hopes together as we enter this new season.

You will see in this and in the next few newsletters there is much going on. And the point of it all is not to see how busy we can all get, but to find how our stories and God's great story are intertwined, and where the blessings are in all of it. What does it mean that we break bread together and hear each others' joys and sorrows? What is God calling us to? What does our faith have to do with all that is taking place in the world around us?

If, as you look through the various Sunday School, small group and Supper Study offerings, you do not find what you or members of your family need, come talk to us! We're open to new ideas and ready with resources to help folks get something going.

I'm glad to be back, and I look forward to seeing you!

JP

### **PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Alice Lawrence . . .Lena Mae Caveness . .  
Evelyn Chamberlain . . .Maxine Pruett .  
Roberta Barrow . . .Jimmy Perry, son of Dell  
Perry . . .Lauren Brower . . .Annie Driver,  
mother of Ed Driver . . .Matthew Wagoner,  
grandson of Margaret Wagoner . . Blanche  
Harper . . .Beth Haunton, friend of Lorie  
Tyson

### **LECTIONARY READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS**

Sept. 3: Song 2:8-13; Psalm 45; James  
1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23.

Sept. 10: Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9,22-23; Psalm  
125; James 2:1-10,14-17; Mark 7:24-37.

Sept. 17: Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19;  
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38.

### **NEW SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY: THE WAY OF TRANSFORMING DISCIPLESHIP!**

I will be leading this six-week study which “challenges Christians to live the whole gospel by connecting spirituality and discipleship.” The study was written by Trevor Hudson, one of the leading voices of reconciliation in the South African Christian community. The format will be similar to last Spring's study on forgiveness, with brief readings, exercises, journal keeping, and a weekly two hour gathering.

The introductory session will be on Thursday, September 21 at 7 pm.

An additional daytime group may be formed if there is strong interest.

Contact Julie for further information.

**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE BY  
SEPTEMBER 12 SO WE CAN ORDER  
ENOUGH BOOKS! THANKS!**

## SUPPER STUDY PROGRAMS FOR THE FALL SEASON

- SEPTEMBER 13                   “WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER SABBATICAL” Julie Peeples will share her experiences from her time away. This will also be a time for others to share stories from their summer travels, so join us!  
Meal – Lasagna, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert
- SEPTEMBER 20                   WORKING FOR PEACE IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE. Max and Jane Carter, active here with the Quaker community, will give a presentation of their most recent work trip to Israel in July and their ongoing efforts with others there to work for peace.  
Meal – Special entrées from Jack’s Restaurant
- SEPTEMBER 27                   CHANGE: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT. Katharine and Brent Martin, along with Susan Parker, will tell us about their work with this program in Winston Salem which supports grass roots efforts toward lasting change in communities.  
Meal – Chicken Pot Pie, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert
- OCTOBER 4                      A LIVING WAGE: WHAT DOES IT MEAN? Bob Williams will help us understand the issue and why it is an important discussion in NC and beyond.  
Meal – Covered Dish
- OCTOBER 11                     GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . . Are you ready for 20 questions of a fun and engaging variety? Join us for a great evening of getting to know new and “veteran” members. Make some new friends, find out some things you never knew about old friends! New people eat for free!  
Meal – Lasagna, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert
- OCTOBER 18                     IMMIGRATION MYTHS AND FACTS. Mark Sills of Faith Action International House will speak with us about immigration and the work of Faith Action.  
Meal – International cuisine from a local restaurant
- OCTOBER 25                     CANDIDATES FORUM. This is your chance to share a meal with and get to know many of the candidates for local and state office before the election. Bring your questions, invite your friends and neighbors!  
Meal – Chicken Pot Pie, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert
- NOVEMBER 1                     THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN. Our congregational nurse, Charlotte Evans, will offer this program on the abundant and rich spiritual development of children.  
Meal – Covered Dish
- NOVEMBER 8                     THEOLOGICAL ROUNDTABLE: DO DENOMINATIONS STILL MATTER? Join us for an engaging conversation on a matter of current debate.  
Meal – Lasagna, Salad, Fresh Fruit, Dessert
- NOVEMBER 15                    FINDING THE HOLY IN THE HOLIDAYS. With Thanksgiving a week away, and Advent soon to follow, it’s not too soon to plan this holiday season with a focus on what matters most. Join us as we share ideas for toning down the craziness and enhancing the joy and peace.  
Meal – A Thanksgiving Preview

Meals are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. There is no charge for covered dish. We always have a children’s alternative meal, and childcare during the meal and program.

## From your Minister for Christian Education

The Board of Christian Education will have a Christian Education Fair [Church Opportunity Fair?] on each of the next two Sundays, during coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall. There, you will meet our teachers and have a chance to preview the small group opportunities for this fall, including our several reading groups, our musical groups, Supper Study, and more. Most of our Christian Education programs begin in September, and we hope and invite you to participate in at least one event. You will be glad you did!

The Youth Groups will have a work morning to complete re-painting of the Youth Room on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Join them, and eat pizza for lunch!

The church's reading group, currently named the "Pseudo-Serious Gnostics", will read and discuss our first novel, "The Kite Runner" at our next meeting, which will be Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, following worship. Join us!

The Church received a thank you from Lynn Hamilton, who wishes to express her and her family's "thanks to the church for being with us during my mother's last few days and then for conducting the funeral service. A contribution in her memory is in gratitude to the members of the congregation. They sent cards and e-mails, brought food, visited with my extended family, and attended the service. And, Grace Barber and Woody Faulkner provided beautiful music. I am deeply touched by this outpouring of love to this new member."

Belated congratulations to Sam Kent, who graduated Southwest Guilford High School, summa cum laude. He will be attending UNC Charlotte this fall. Sam is son of Jim and Anne Kent, and grandson of Reese Kent.

The United Church News, our national newspaper of the UCC, is seeking 75 word submissions, on what you love about being UCC. Offer a word of gratitude to a helpful mentor. Share how a UCC General Synod stance or a meaningful worship experience touched you. Remind us how "covenant" aided you or your church during a time of crisis. More information can be found in the August/September edition of the United Church News, or at their website, [www.UCC.ORG/uccnews](http://www.UCC.ORG/uccnews). Submissions are due 4 September, and can be sent to, [newsroom@ucc.org](mailto:newsroom@ucc.org) with "soapbox" in the subject line. Copy Paul, and we will produce our own compilation in our newsletter.

Our CUCC shirts have arrived! You can pick your shirt(s) up in Fellowship Hall, if you have made an order (and you can pay for them with a check to CUCC). If you did not order a shirt, we have some extra tee shirts and we can place an order for additional polo shirts. Hooray for Clif Karnes who managed this lovely and successful campaign.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast is nearly a year old. We have met at several locations, seeking a quiet, smoke-free, inexpensive, and decent place for a weekly repast. The first time one attends, the meal is free. To honor our anniversary month, in September, if you bring a new person, both you and your friend will eat for free! Join us!

