

# CONGREGATIONAL NEWS



"That They May All Be One"

September 20, 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  
Fax: 336-370-0297

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 Charlotte Evans, our Congregational Nurse, and her family, upon the death of her father, Victor Willson, on August 25 in Oklahoma.

Prayers and sympathies also go out to Fran Ditto and her family, upon the death of her father, William Murchison. Services were held at 1st Presbyterian Church in Greensboro on August 31.

To My Church Friends,

I sincerely appreciate the many acts of kindness expressed to me since March 2005. I really miss attending church! Hopefully I will be back in a few weeks.

Maxine Pruett



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My name is MAJ Edwin Rice and I am assigned as the G4 for the 209th Regional Command Assistance Group. Our unit mission is to train the Afghan National Army so one day they can become a self-protecting and sustaining army that will keep the country of Afghanistan a sovereign nation. It is an enormous task and one the U.S. Government is committed to until the end.

I want to personally thank you for the packages of school supplies you sent for the girls' school in Dedade. We continue to sort and distribute the supplies and will take lots of pictures and send them to the church for everyone to see. Words cannot express the gratitude these soldiers and the children at Dedade have for you and your church for donating school supplies.

Thank you for everything you have done in the past, present and future for the Armed Forces serving all over the world.

Edwin B. Rice  
MAJ, QM  
209th RCAG G4

Thank you for the many cards and calls made to myself and family during a very difficult time. David and I were married 59-1/2 years and spent most of those years in Greensboro. We joined the church in January 1955. While we moved to Davidson 2-1/2 years ago, so many of those we continue to call friends are members of Congregational. It means a lot to us to be remembered at this time.

Isabelle Powell

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
2006 Operating Income & Expenses

	Aug.	Yr. to Date
Income	\$17,197.75	\$184,277.62
Expense	\$19,502.64	\$206,762.15
	(\$2,304.89)	(\$22,844.53)

**BOARDS & COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Church Council and Boards meeting will be on Tuesday, September 26 starting at 6:45 pm with prayer. Boards meet at 7 pm, followed by Church Council at 8 pm. If you are unable to attend, please notify the moderator or your board chair.

**CROP Walk – 2006**

Put October 8<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. That's the date for the Greensboro CROP Walk. Members of Congregational will be joining others from across the community in the walk which will begin that afternoon at 3:00 pm at First Horizon Park. If you can't walk, you can still participate by sponsoring a walker.

This year we will be walking to help provide food for the hungry in our own community and around the world. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected will remain here in Greensboro to provide food for Potters House at the Urban Ministry. Every day between 350 and 400 poor people are feed at Potters House.

In addition to providing food for the poor in the third world, funds also will be used to increase sources of clean water. During the 1990's the number of children who died from diarrhea caused by contaminated water exceeded the number of people killed in all armed conflicts since World War II. The need is great.

Please contact Angie Ramsey or Ralph Wenger if you have any questions.

Ralph Wenger, Chair  
Board of Christian Service

## From your Pastor

Sunday, September 10 was not a "Communion Sunday." But it definitely brought to my mind the words of the prayer of consecration spoken over the bread and cup: "Come, Holy Spirit . . . bless this bread, bless this fruit of the vine, bless all of us . . . that our eyes may be opened and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other . . ." On that Sunday, in addition to our members and friends we were honored to have with us members of the local Sudanese community and also the Hmoks, the Montagnard family our church has sponsored this year. The risen Christ was surely in our midst.

Our eyes become strained, our hearts constrict with fear from watching for—expecting—more signs of hate these days. Is there a terrorist lurking in the home of that neighbor who keeps to himself? Those people who are different from us, how do I know they are not part of some plot we will read about in tomorrow's paper?

But then, right in the midst of our fears, the risen Christ quietly slips in the pew beside us. And sometimes Christ looks like a beautiful little girl with coal black hair and dark eyes, sometimes a tall thin young man with skin the color of rich coffee, singing with an accent we cannot place, and sometimes Christ looks like someone we have known forever but suddenly see with new eyes.

Both the Sudanese and the Montagnards have quietly, humbly shared with us, taught us by their presence. Their faith has a resilience that comes from being tested in the fires of real risk and danger. They are living witnesses of what Jesus taught about losing one's life to save it. I am so, so grateful for the gift of their presence. And I am grateful, too for all who have worked with and supported them.\

Come, Holy Spirit. May we continue to watch for, expect, and recognize the risen Christ in our midst. JP



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

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 . . . Megan  
Cannady . . . Milton Simmons, father of  
Annette Simmons.

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

Sept. 24:

Prov 31:10-31; Ps 1; James 3:13-4:3,7-8a;  
Mark 9:30-37.

Oct 1:

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Ps 124; James  
5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

### **HELP WITH COFFEE HOUR/KOINONIA GROUPS**

One of the ways you can offer your service to the church community and at the same time get to know more people is to become a part of a Koinonia Group. Each group takes responsibility for one Sunday a month, providing beverages and light refreshments after worship. You can join one of our groups by calling Diane Brewer or the church office.

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will have its First Retreat, on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 10-3, at St. Francis Springs Retreat Center in Stokesdale. All men are welcome to attend. Speak with Mike Dorko, Bill Smith, or Paul Davis. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes lunch. – hold this for confirmation!

Our Christian Education events are off and running. Join in!

Both youth groups will meet on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>: The Middle Youth Group will meet following the coffee hour, and the Senior High Youth Group will meet at 5 pm.

Our church's book club, The Pseudo-Serious Gnostics, will meet again next Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup>, following worship, to discuss *The Kite Runner*. The group meets in the Parlor and brings lunch. We hope to see you.

The Children's Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings, with the Cherub Choir at 5.30 pm and the Celebration Singers at 6.15 pm. This, of course, gives everyone time to eat supper! Just make a reservation with the office.

The Supper Study meal on September 27<sup>th</sup> will be a baked potato bar, featuring locally grown potatoes, courtesy of Sankey Moore-Painter. The originally scheduled meal will happen again in October.

At this point, you are too late to register for this year's All Church Annual Retreat in Blowing Rock, which will be September 29 to October 1. We'll miss you this year. The dates for next year will be October 5-7. See you next year!

Place on front page of newsletter:

The church and the staff have new email addresses. To contact the office:

[Office@congregationalucc.com](mailto:Office@congregationalucc.com)

To contact Julie: [Julie@congregationalucc.com](mailto:Julie@congregationalucc.com) . To contact Paul:

[paul@congregationalucc.com](mailto:paul@congregationalucc.com) . The Bellsouth addresses will soon go away, so please note the changes!

**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER**

**Ushers for the month**

Joann Myrick, Bernice Driver,  
Sticky Burch, Clyde Humphrey

**Nursery**

October 1 - Susan Lane/Lynn Magyar  
October 8 - Linda DeShazo  
October 15 - Nancy Prairie/Ann Barton  
October 22 - Katherine Rowe/Emma Yardley  
October 29 - Krista/Tina Kohlphenson

**Coffee Hour**

October 1—Margaret Caviness  
Bonnie & Frank Kuester  
October 8—t.b.a.  
October 15—Stephanie Shoaf/Tricia Sutter  
October 22—Beth Woody  
October 29—Cynthia Brewer/  
Melinda Matthews

**REMINDER!**

If you would like to be added to our birthday schedule, please let the office know.

**CONGRATULATION TO ALL OUR MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER**

1. Sherrill Hall
2. Arnold Johnson
3. Sally White
5. Wilson Rowe
6. Diane Brewer
7. Randel Roberts
8. Clara Scarborough
12. Irene Fenn
13. Florence Hilliard  
Trish Shroyer  
Zachary Hertlein
16. John Cary  
Helen Core
17. Catherine R. Rachide (Bulla)  
Brian James Swanson  
Parker Acrey
18. Bernice Driver  
Bill Simpson
19. Lorie Tyson
20. Bill Swanson
21. Courtney Kent  
Walter Burch
29. Ed Shroyer

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