

Lent Begins

Ash Wednesday

Supper Study for Ash Wednesday will combine a Shrove Tuesday meal with an Ash Wednesday service. Join us for pancakes, meats and fruit. The meal will begin at 6:00 pm (reservations as usual, due in the office by noon Tuesday). And, we will have a worship service that will include the imposition of ashes. The worship will begin around 6.45. Join us as we honor the transition from Epiphany to Lent, the great cyclical drama of our lives.

Last year Sankey Moore-Painter and Lynn Magyar, with the help of a few others, put together a wonderful slide show for Lent. As we prepare for Ash Wednesday, we invite you to help with a new slide show. Help us find images that depict for you Lent. It could be specifically religious, or it could be simply evocative of God's power to speak visually. If you have an image, please email it (or the link) to Paul.



New to the CUCC Family

"We welcome you with joy ..." The following members were joined with us in mission on Sunday, February 11th:

Peg Stephenson
Lou Hodges
Rev. Rhonda Davis
C. P. Gause
Wilbur Parrott
Bob Kingston

Education Notes

Special Friends



Invitation letters went out to the younger half of our future dynamic duos, and verbal invitations have been extended in worship

and in person the past couple Sundays. We hope you will join in. The inaugural meeting will be Sunday, February 25th, 5:00 to 7:30 pm.

New Lenten Devotional

We have a new Lenten devotional booklet from the denomination, entitled: *"God is still speaking, ... I am (s)training to hear..."* It is available in the Fellowship Hall.

Spring Book Sale

The Board of Christian Education will hold its Spring Book Sale sometime in late April. We covet your books. Give them to us, and we will sell them to others. You can leave them either outside Paul's office door or outside Room 122 on the lower level. The proceeds will go to assisting with the costs of the All Church Annual Retreat held at Blowing Rock Conference Center, scheduled for the last weekend in September. Reservation forms for the retreat are outside Paul's office.

Spring Retreat

The Men's Prayer Breakfast would like to announce a Men's Spring Retreat, to be held on Saturday, April 14th, at St. Francis Springs Retreat Center. The program will begin at 10:00 am and end around 3:00 pm. Reservations are necessary. Be in touch with Paul if you can attend.



Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship Schedule

General Assembly: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Refreshments: 12:00 p.m.

Our Mission

As people of Congregational United Church of Christ, we seek to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, accepting God's call to be a true community of love, compassion, and nurture.

Visitors

Congregational United Church of Christ is a warm, welcoming congregation that is always happy to receive visitors. To help you feel as comfortable and at-home as possible when you visit us, we've put together some information on what the Congregational experience is like — how to get to the church, what to wear (which is pretty much anything you'd like), nursery and Sunday school hours, and more. For details, check out our Visitor Page at our website: www.congregationalucc.com/about/visitors.php.

Our Next Newsletter

Deadline: Friday, February 9
Publication: The week of February 11
News and events can be sent to office@congregationalucc.com.
Can't wait for news? Check out the Congregational UCC web site at www.congregationalucc.com. It is up-to-date, relevant, interesting, lively, and available 24 hours.

Lectionary Readings

February 18, 2007
Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2
Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

February 25, 2007
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Paul Davis
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Mr. Woodson Faulkner
Music Director/Organist

Ms. Charlotte Evans
Congregational Nurse
opendoornc@aol.com
Drop-In Hours: Wed., 10-11:30 am
Home Visits: Thursdays

Ms. Sarah Downey
Director Children's Music
Bella A Cappella

Ms. Regina Hayes
Nursery Director

Ms. Judy Page
Office Manager
office@congregationalucc.com
Office Hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Monday thru Wednesday & Friday

Mr. Sankey Moore-Painter
Treasurer
treasurer@congregationalucc.com

Ministries

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

Outreach Programs

- Greensboro Urban Ministry
- Mobile Meals
- Habitat for Humanity
- Potter's House
- Higher Ground
- and many more . . .

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From the Pastor

Discerning God's Will for CUCC



How do we discern God's will? At the orientation and planning session for our board and council members this past Sunday, we spent some time grappling with just that question. We dealt first with some of the "nuts and bolts" issues: financial reports, how to get reimbursed, how to get minutes out, who to call for what need, what each staff member does and which board they work with, how to reserve a room and so on. For the second half of the gathering, we worked to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit to help set the focus for the coming months. Such discernment involves carefully considering the key ingredients of Scripture, available assets and gifts, individual and congregational strengths, the needs we perceive around us, and those areas we feel most passionate about — all of these help reveal the Spirit's leading.

I am most grateful for the willingness and enthusiasm of our congregation's leaders, not only to give up part of a Sunday afternoon, but to seriously seek God's direction for our congregation. And to do so in a spirit of joy and partnership!

As a result of their good efforts Sunday, along with those efforts already in progress, you can expect to see a variety of great opportunities and strengthened ongoing activities. Among these, we will be doing more as a church to be better stewards of God's creation. We'll help newer and more "veteran" members get to know one another

better. We'll seek opportunities to learn more about and practice our own unique version of evangelism and telling our story, offering opportunities for healing worship and peaceful meditation, encouraging our children and youth to become more involved in outreach.

How do we discern God's will? Whether in our personal lives or in the life of the congregation, there is no simple, one-size-fits-all formula. But there are certain elements, ingredients which help show us the way. And when we take the time to listen to those elements, to see how they fit together, to understand God has put all these different pieces and gifts and people in our lives at this time for a reason, then comes the truly exciting part: living by God's grace and guidance, rather than just our own wits. We are part of something much greater, much more purposeful than we could have imagined. We have only to be faithful to the call.

—Julie Peeples



Please Keep In Your Prayers . . .

Roberta Barrow, Lauren Brower, Megan Cannady, Evelyn Chamberlain, Bob Crews (Cathy Wheeler's father), Ruby Duncan, Ted Fields, Barbara Fillipeli (sister of Reese Kent), Blanche Harper, Beth Haunton (friend of Lorie Tyson), Ethan Pressmann, Tim Rains, Tilly Rice (mother of David Rice), Edmund Sandlin, Barbara Wagner (mother of Katherine Martin), Matthew Wagoner (grandson of Margaret Wagoner)

Women of the Church

Circle Meetings, Special Events

A reminder that Circles will meet on Tuesday, February 20th. The morning group will meet at 10:00 and the evening group at 7:00.

Ladies, please remember that we will be collecting for blankets at these meetings.



**Church Women United
World Day of Prayer
Friday, March 2, 2007**

Church Women United invites you to join women from forty Greensboro congregations for their annual World Day of Prayer service to be held at the Native American United Methodist Church, 3010 Monterey Street, Greensboro.

Each year, women from a different country prepare a special celebration to be used world-wide during one 24-hour period. This year's committee is from Paraguay, and they have chosen as their theme: "Under God's Tent." After a registration and fellowship time from 9:45-10:30 am, there will be a brief period of Bible study before the worship service which begins at 11:00 am.

Come! Unite with women around the globe by adding your prayers to the unbroken circle. Let us reaffirm our common hope for a just and peaceful world.

If you need transportation, contact Eileen Stirling, 852-0170, or leave a message at the church office, 274-5378.

Join us for this special event!

Women's Conferences

Summer Conference has a new format: a twenty-four hour retreat June 15 & 16 at the Summit Conference and Retreat Center (formerly Episcopal Conference Center) in Brown Summit, North Carolina. The Reverend Lynn Hinton will be the leader for the retreat whose theme is: "Stand and Give Thanks, A Gathering of Gratitude." Overnight lodging and programming costs will be \$85.00 per person, and programming costs for those who do not need lodging will be \$25.00. Contact Dot Ballinger for more information.

Also, our Regional United Church of Christ Women's meeting will take place October 26-28, 2007 at BRAG. The theme is "In The Fullness Of God's Creation — Renewing Spirit, Building Community, Doing Justice." The scripture is Isaiah 40: 28-31 and our keynote speaker will be: The Reverend Bernice Powell Jackson (former Executive minister for Justice and Witness - United Church of Christ). Dr. Nancy Allison will be our Bible Study leader. Our Nancy Glenz is the registrar assisted by Dot Ballinger, Doris Yeates is our treasurer and Eugenia Holste is chairperson of this event. The Southern Conference is the host for this regional event, and many volunteers will be needed to assist. Contact Dot Ballinger for more information.



Youth Group

Middle School Youth will meet at church on Sunday, February 25th from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.



Lecture Opportunity



The Congregational Church of Pinehurst, UCC, will host "A Conversation with Bishop Spong" on March 24, from 10:30 am to 4:30

pm. John Shelby Spong is a retired Episcopal bishop and well-known author. Pre-registration is required. The \$35.00 registration fee includes lunch. Request registration forms at ccp@uccpinehurst.org.

CUCC Business

Volunteers

February 18

Lay Reader: Pam Porter
Nursery: Nancy Prairie
Ann Barton
Coffee Hour: Nancy & Chip Prairie

February 25

Lay Reader: Nancy Glenz
Nursery: Katherine Rowe
Jenny Grayer
Coffee Hour: TBA

Ushers - February

Frank Kuester, Reese Kent,
John Taylor, Charles Hertlein

Financial Reports

Weekly Income	02/04/07	02/11/07
Regular Offering	\$5,294.00	\$4,782.95
Loose Offering	94.00	175.00
Initial Offering	8.00	3.00
Memorial Fund	220.00	—
Use of Church	600.00	634.00
Supper Study	—	242.00
Miscellaneous	—	30.00
Meet the Bud. Camp.	—	50.00
BRAG Trip Dep.	—	170.00
Total	\$6,216.00	\$6,086.95

Budget Income/Expense Summary

	Jan. 07	YTD
Income	\$18,332.78	\$18,332.78
Expense	\$23,117.49	\$23,117.49
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$4,794.71)	(\$4,794.71)



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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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400 West Radiance Drive
Greensboro, NC 27403

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Thank you for worshipping with us.
Please join us again!

Notes of Gratitude

Loving friends,

Thank you for the many things you have done for us during this illness that my husband and I have had. It is not pleasant to have both of us in the hospital at the same time and be dependant on others. You all have been wonderful with food, shopping, errands, cards and prayers. Never in a hundred years could I have chosen a more loving, caring church.

By the way, BellSouth managed to leave us out of the phone book. I am sorry if this has caused inconvenience to you. We are at #7 AnnaLisa Drive, 27455 and the phone is 540-1013.

With greatest gratitude,
Etta Mullikin

Dear Friends,

Thank you! Your gift from the Cora L. Anthony Trust Fund in support of FOCI's work in India means so much: it means you care; it means we can continue caring; it means that promises are kept, hopes are fueled and the miracle of this little ministry can continue to be real in the lives of many physically and spiritually impoverished people.

The darkness of poverty, caste, disease, illiteracy, hunger and prejudice are all dispelled by the light your FOCI gift produces.



Muslim children and parents and leaders welcome the reality of FOCI's message of Godly love. The life and teachings of Jesus Christ ring true in the homes of Hindus and Sikhs. Through FOCI, Christianity is not viewed as a foreign religion or an enemy. Through FOCI, people living in a region of the world marred by hate can learn of the God of faith, hope and love.

Every day, the lives of many are changed by God's gracious love which permeates all the FOCI-projects ... projects that continue thanks to wonderful people like you and your generous support for this ministry. Again, thank you.

In Christ's Name,
David J. Rowe President