

Greensboro Artbeat

ArtBeat At Church

On Sunday, May 4, our church will join with the larger Greensboro ArtBeat events by offering our own "ArtBeat At Church" event. We would like you, dear members and friends, to bring your works of art for us to display by Friday, May 2, at 2:00 pm. Please attach your name and the names of your pieces. We want to encourage kids to bring something as well, and parents should help get these items to church. How many items? How about five items per person as a maximum number. Thus far, over twenty people have agreed to bring art to the event!



During our Sunday School time, we will turn our church into an art gallery, with displays of art everywhere. A printed program will be provided

that will include some reflective questions so that we can move about, look at art and have conversations about art. We will have refreshments including hot and cold beverages and some goodies. There will be church-wide art opportunities in which everyone can participate: we will decorate a Tent of Hope (see announcement below), create a quilt formed with small pieces of cloth that members/ participants will decorate, and have a couple projects available for younger people. The event will include our worship time and space — there will be some of works displayed in the Sanctuary, we will hear music from the Eastern Middle School Gospel Choir, and the ser-

vice will help us think about art and creativity within the context of worshipping God.

Everyone is welcome, and you are encouraged to invite friends to join us!

Tents of Hope

The Tents of Hope project emerged in June 2007 through a partnership between the United Church of Christ, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Dear Sudan. The purpose of the project is to support a process in which people respond as communities to the crisis in Darfur by painting tents to focus individuals and churches on the needs in this war-ravaged part of the world. The project seeks to raise awareness and generate a response to the genocide in Darfur through education, advocacy and fundraising for humanitarian aid. Our church will begin painting its Tent of Hope next Sunday (May 4th). All are welcome. Those interested in participating should wear appropriate clothes or bring a change of clothes with them. Contact Ralph Wenger if you have questions.

Tents from around the country will be displayed on the mall in Washington D.C. in the fall.



Blood Drive

Giving blood is just about the best 30-minute witness one can give that Jesus loves us and we are called to love one another. Some in our church cannot give; some of you can — you know who you are. Please contact Bill Smith to sign up.



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, May 9
Publication: Wednesday, May 14

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

May 4, 2008

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 11, 2008

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
I Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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julie@congregationalucc.com

Rev. William C. Smith
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paul@congregationalucc.com

Ms. Amy Maier
Organist
aemaier@spartan.uncg.edu

Ms. Charlotte Evans
Congregational Nurse
opendoornc@aol.com
Drop-In Hours: 4th Sun. of the month
10:00-11:00 am
Home Visits: Thursdays

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

- 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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Greensboro, North Carolina

From the Pastor

Gotta dance when the Spirit says dance . .

She was perhaps two, maybe three years old with soft blond curls and pink cheeks. And as the music got into full swing, an Irish duo with a lively beat, the little girl broke into a joyful, free-spirited dance. Her parents and soon most others around them began to notice, and the smiles spread from face to face. For a few moments, all else was forgotten, the worries, frustrations – the burdens adults carry with them like the heavy-laden backpacks many sported that day. For a few moments we all were even able to forget that the thunderstorm had left us all soaking from head to toe. We were lost and found in the little girl's spontaneous jig. She never noticed that she had an audience, which made it all the more wonderful. She just kept twirling and floating to the rhythm.



Do you suppose God gave us music, dance, art, poetry for just such a purpose? Is it

possible God knew we would all need to smile, to let go, to actually feel the Spirit in and around us, jiggling something free that has been bound? Could it be one of God's most creative ways of nudging us in the ribs and saying, "Look! Look around you! Isn't it beautiful and good?"

This Sunday we will give God thanks for such creativity; we will celebrate the arts and look around us at all that is beautiful and good. Young people singing their hearts out, photographers and potters and painters and weavers and writers and more, all graciously allowing us to enjoy the creative gifts God has poured out in abundance. Come and share your own creative gifts, come

and let the Spirit jiggle something loose inside you. Come and give God thanks.

And wherever you go in the days ahead, whatever burdens may seem to weigh upon your shoulders, I hope you will pause a while and look around. The Artist who created all is still at work.

—Julie Peeples



SSHHH!! **A Love Offering for Amy Maier — Pass It On!**

Our wonderful accompanist, Amy Maier, will be leaving soon. May 18 is her last Sunday before moving back home to Maine.

Amy has been invaluable this past year, offering beautiful music in worship, faithfully working with the choirs, being available for funerals and special services. In the past month she has also been a vital leader in keeping the music program strong and vibrant.

We would like to take up a Love Offering to give to her as she begins a new chapter in her life. If you would like to contribute, checks can be made payable to "Congregational United Church of Christ," marked for Love Offering. We'd like this to be a surprise, so share it with others, but not Amy!!

Education Notes

Heritage Sunday



Interested in participating in a work trip? We will have a meeting following worship on Sunday, May 4.

Please be in touch with me if you cannot attend the meeting.

—Paul Davis

Heritage Sunday

On Sunday, May 18th, we will honor people who have been members of our church for forty years or more. It is quite a select group!

That day we will have a special luncheon with a choice of baked chicken or baked fish, mashed potatoes, rolls, green beans, and various desserts. Our time together will also include a couple of slide presentations (and some neat old pictures from our archives), and we will briefly talk about some ways all of us can actively support our church. Our honored 40+ year participants will be guests; the rest of us are encouraged to attend and bring a dessert to share.

Reservations are needed — either mark the pew pad, sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call the office. We have a glorious past and 40 years from now we think people will look back and say the same thing about us. Come to the luncheon and join us in this celebration of our Church!



Honor Our Graduates

With spring comes the season of graduations. The church will honor our graduates on Sunday, June 1. Please let the office know if your person is winding up her or his latest educational regimen, any honors earned, and plans that will ensue.

CUCC Business

Choir Follies, EFT Giving & More

Mark your calendar and plan to join us May 16th at 7:00 pm in the Floyd Fellowship Hall! The choir and handbells will be entertaining all with songs, humor, and . . . well you just have to come and see! And if anyone is interested in singing, dancing, joke-telling – whatever your special talent – you can sign up on the list on the bulletin board or e-mail the church office.

Know Your Church: The Moderator



Ken Sell, the Moderator, presides at all meetings of the Church Council, and the congregation. He is chair of the

Pastoral Relations Committee, which evaluates the pastor and recommends her salary for the coming year. The moderator is elected annually but may serve for three years. This is Ken's third year.

Summertime . . .

And the Giving is Easy

As summertime draws near, many of us make plans to travel and to visit out of town. There is a way you can continue to meet your pledge even when you are away. Our church offers Electronic Funds Transfer, and we have 27 satisfied members and friends who already enjoy this easy way to give. Simply choose a donation frequency and the amount you wish to contribute each time. Authorization forms are at three locations in the church — in the Narthex, next to the office and near the entrance of the Fellowship Hall. All you need to do is complete a form and provide a voided check, and we'll do the rest. Funds will be electronically transferred from your

bank account to that of the church. If at any point you need to adjust your giving or put a temporary hold on it, just make a quick call to the Financial Secretary and that can be arranged. For further information check the church website.

Next Board & Council Meeting Night

The Boards and Church Council will have their next regular meetings on Tuesday, May 27, beginning at 6:45 pm with a time of prayer. Board meetings begin at 7:00, Council at 8:15.

CUCC Business

Volunteers

May 4

Lay Reader: Nancy Prairie
Toddler Nursery: S. Harper and S. Frye
Children's Church: Stephanie Shoaf
Coffee Hour: M. Caviness and B. & F. Kuester

May 11

Lay Reader: Paul Macy
Toddler Nursery: Tracie Cranford
Children's Church: Cheryl Smith
Coffee Hour: B. & S. Whitener

May Ushers

F. Kuester, J. Taylor, C. Hertlein

Financial Reports

| Weekly Income | 04/20/08 | 04/27/08 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Pledged Offering | \$4,456.00 | \$3,917.00 |
| Unpledged Offering | 655.00 | 639.26 |
| Memorial Fund | 150.00 | 25.00 |
| C. Anthony Trust | 500.00 | --- |
| Montagnard Family | 25.00 | --- |
| Miscellaneous | --- | 195.00 |
| Use of Church | --- | 100.00 |
| Supper Study | --- | 70.00 |
| Pastor's Disc. Fund | --- | 500.00 |
| Total | \$5,786.00 | \$5,446.26 |

Budget Income/Expense Summary

| | 4/1-28/08 | Year-to-Date |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income | \$28,072.24 | \$113,999.93 |
| Expense | \$35,912.50 | \$105,545.59 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (\$7,480.26) | \$8,454.34 |

Eat Smart — Move More



The State of North Carolina is committed to supporting health through an educational initiative called, *Eat Smart/Move*

get started, I am providing a chart that guides a simple walking plan. Following the directions, you will walk a few minutes a day, at least three times a week.

As you get up and get moving, I would love to hear your stories!

Be Healthy,
Charlotte Evans RN, MN, CN



More (myeatssmartmovemore.com). Now that we are having more beautiful days, it is time to make good on that New Year's resolution to "get more exercise!" To help us

| SAMPLE WALKING PROGRAM | WARM UP | ACTIVITY | COOL DOWN | TOTAL TIME |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| WEEK 1 - Session A | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 5 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 15 min. |
| WEEK 1 - Session B | Repeat above pattern | | | |
| WEEK 1 - Session C | Repeat above pattern | | | |
| <i>Continue with at least three walking sessions during each week of the program.</i> | | | | |
| WEEK 2 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 7 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 17 min. |
| WEEK 3 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 9 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 19 min. |
| WEEK 4 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 11 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 21 min. |
| WEEK 5 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 13 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 23 min. |
| WEEK 6 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 15 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 25 min. |
| WEEK 7 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 18 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 28 min. |
| WEEK 8 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 20 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 30 min. |
| WEEK 9 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 23 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 33 min. |
| WEEK 10 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 26 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 36 min. |
| WEEK 11 | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 28 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 38 min. |
| WEEK 12 & BEYOND | Walk slowly 5 min. | Then walk briskly 30 min. | Then walk slowly 5 min. | 40 min. |

Source: National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

From the Master Bedroom at 416 Frank Circle

Most of this winter,
I've been in repose,
Lying horizontally,
From my head to my toes.

Being laid up (but
At least not laid out),
And not being able
To be walking about.

This for me would have
Been so much harder,
If not for your tasty
Additions to our larder.

Many fine dishes
You've put in our pot,
Sparing Dear Luther,
For a cook he is not!

Plus your visits and cards,
Helping time to go by,
Checking in on the telly,
Calling just to say "Hi."

We appreciate your prayers,
Each thought and kind word.
The Good Lord has listened,
Your prayers have been heard!

Thank you and God Bless,
Phyl & Luther Abbott



Reunion With Nature

Are you a mobile senior who would love more opportunities to explore scenic natural areas in North Carolina? John Young, a local Quaker and a friend of Rev. Peoples has started a new business, Reunion with Nature. His goal is to help people, seniors especially, explore the great outdoors. Check out his website, reunionwithnature.com.

Serving Greensboro Together, New Baby, Video



If I were a betting man, I would consider these two wagers as sure things on which to put down real money:

- That most people have not given a lot of thought to where they will eat on Tuesday, May 6th.
- That most people will eat three meals on Tuesday, May 6th.
- That many people will vote on May 6th, but all will eat.

However, I do firmly believe that all of you and your friends realize that Greensboro Urban Ministry was founded in 1967, and exists today, **because there are many people in our community who are not sure where, or if, they will eat on any given day.**

And this is why we and more than 120 local restaurants will sponsor *Serving Greensboro Together* again on May 6th. On this day participating restaurants will donate 10% of their total sales to the Ministry's Potters House, which serves nearly 400 less fortunate area citizens a nourishing middle-of-the-day meal every day. So, please do seriously consider eating out for breakfast, lunch and dinner on May 6th.

Prior to the event, you will find a list of participating restaurants in the News & Record, you may call Urban Ministry at 271-5959, or visit our website: www.greensboro-urbanministry.org. Click on the *Serving Greensboro Together* logo.

Last year through *Serving Greensboro Together*, 123 local restaurants donated nearly \$28,000

to Urban Ministry. Since 1993 community restaurants have contributed over \$415,000!

We are pleased that this year *Serving Greensboro Together* will be part of *A Day to Feed the Triad* because we are joining with sister agencies in Winston-Salem and Burlington in similar events. In Winston-Salem, Crisis Control Ministry is sponsoring *Hope du Jour* and in Burlington, Alamance County Community Services Agency is sponsoring *Dining Out for Seniors*. Open Door Ministries of High Point will sponsor *Dining Out for Hunger* at a later date.

—Mike Aiken, Executive Director
Greensboro Urban Ministry



New Baby for the Hmoks!

Kelly Hmok made her grand entrance on Sunday, April 13, 2008 at Women's Hospital. Congratulations to proud parents Gun and Ju Nie!

Some in the congregation have already made wonderful donations of baby items and funds, including our Women's Fellowship. If you would like to help out, checks can be made to the church, marked for "Montagnard Fund."

Gently used baby clothes will also be welcomed!

Special Video Viewing

"For the Bible Tells Me So"
Thursday, May 8th at 7:00 pm
Unity in Greensboro
1035 Opal Drive, Greensboro
FREE

GSAFE and PFLAG Greensboro are pleased to be able to present a public viewing of the widely acclaimed video, "For The Bible Tells Me So." This is a powerful film that can help people see the reality of families with a gay child.

We've all heard the horror stories of children who are told to leave their homes or churches once parents find out their child is gay. But that is far from everyone. Most families still love their children but struggle with the issue of religion and homosexuality.

This is one of the best videos produced to help people who are struggling with the issue or just don't know much about it.

Keep in Your Prayers ...

Luther & Phyllis Abbott,
Lauren Brower, Evelyn Chamberlain, Mike Connelly (Clif Karnes' brother-in-law), Bob Crews (Cathy Wheeler's father), Fran Ditto, Jessica Ellisor (Teresa Earle's niece), Emily Field, Bob Foster, Kaye Gardiner (Midge Rasey's daughter), Betty Gibbs, Beth Haunton (Lorie Tyson's friend), The Lamberts, Natama Summers (Henrietta Ingram's niece), Charles Stricklen, Virginia Stricklen, Matthew Wagoner (Margaret Wagoner's grandson), H. O. Williams



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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Congregational United Church of Christ
400 West Radiance Drive
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The newsletter is available on-line. If you like this option and **PROMISE YOU WILL READ IT**, we will stop mailing you the newsletter and you can save us some money and save the world some paper. We will send you an e-mail letting you know when the newsletter is available along with a link to take you to it directly.

To date, fifty households have requested to be removed.

UCC News Offered Free to All at CUCC

The official news publication of the United Church of Christ, *The UCC News*, is available for free.

This bi-monthly publication is always full of updates about the denomination, mission efforts, special events, analysis of current events, and more. It also includes a wrap-around of the Southern Conference News as well for more local information and stories.



*Contact the church office if you are not currently receiving *The UCC News* and would like to.*

May Birthdays

- 5/3 Margaret Byrd
- 5/4 Becky Fleischer
- 5/5 Joann Taylor
- 5/5 Cynthia Brewer
- 5/6 Martha Nance
- 5/6 Mike Dorko
- 5/7 James Brewer
- 5/7 Marjorie Johnson
- 5/8 Tina Kohlphenson
- 5/11 Mickey Henderson
- 5/12 Ryan Troutman
- 5/16 Taryn Kohlphenson
- 5/16 Lena Mae Caveness
- 5/16 Rick Barton
- 5/24 Marilouise Tugan
- 5/29 Winnie Smith
- 5/29 Wilbur Parrott III
- 5/30 Dot Ballinger
- 5/31 Heather Langston