

Summer Bible Workshop

Intergenerational Summer Adventure

At our intergenerational summer adventure in religious education, we will look at 200 years of Christianity in Greensboro, following the celebration of our city's Bicentennial. We will have two field trips (to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park and to Buffalo Presbyterian Church's cemetery), we will work on our Tent of Hope, we will have discussion for both adults and children.

Make your reservation either on the Pew Pad or by calling the office, or signing up in the Fellowship Hall. Each evening we will begin with dinner at 5:30 pm, and end around 8:15 pm.



Sermon Series

Julie will continue her three-part sermon series on the Parables of Jesus this Sunday and next. Hope to see you in church!



The baptism of our newest member, Austin Carlos Perry-Brandon.



Baseball Game: Friday, August 8th

For the past few summers we have attended a baseball game to mark the end of Summer Bible Workshop. We will again go to a Grasshoppers game, but, because of scheduling issues, cannot do so until August 8th. If you are interested in coming, there is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Box seat tickets are available at \$8 for adults and \$6 for those under 12 and over 62 years of age. Tickets are limited, so sign up soon. Make checks payable to CUCC. Join us!



Search Committee at Work

Our Search Committee is currently reviewing resumes and setting up interviews for our Director of Music position. Members of this committee are: Tim Rains, chair, Lynn Wright-Kernodle, Margery Veatch, Clif Karnes, Bill Guill, and Julie Peeples. The committee will keep the congregation apprised of its progress. If you have input, questions, or suggestions, please notify Tim, Julie, or one of the committee members. Once we have a new director on board, we will begin the search for an organist/pianist.

Please keep them in your prayers in the weeks to come.



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, August 8
Publication: Wednesday, August 13

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

July 20, 2008

Gen. 28:10-19a, Mat. 13:24-30

July 27, 2008

Gen. 29:15-28, Mat. 13:31-33, 44-52

August 3, 2008

Gen. 32:22-31, Mat. 14:13-21

August 10, 2008

Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28, Mat. 14:22-33



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Rev. William C. Smith
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Paul Davis
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paul@congregationalucc.com

Mr. Jimmy Buchanan
Interim Choir Director
jrb soul@aol.com

Ms. Charlotte Evans
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Drop-In Hours: 4th Sun. of the month
10:00-11:00 am
Home Visits: Thursdays

Ms. Regina Hayes
Nursery Director
regi.hay@gmail.com

Ms. Judy Page
Office Manager
office@congregationalucc.com
General Summer Office Hours:
11:00 am – 2:00 pm Mon.-Fri.
Judy will be in the office on
Fridays from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

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

Summertime — And The Planning Isn't Easy . . .



Corn and tomatoes are starting to taste the way they're supposed to. On evening walks, the scent of backyard grills

wafts through the air. Must be July! Hope you are enjoying all the special delights of summer thus far.

When the weather gets good and hot I know it's planning season — not for the garden, but for our church life. In the summer especially, all sorts of ideas buzz around in my mind like the bees circling in the bushes in our front yard. If time permitted, each September I'd start about a half dozen small groups, but that doesn't work when one also wants sermon-prep time and visiting time and so on! My ideas? I'd love to have a group interested in discussing/supporting one another in simplifying our lives and reducing our carbon footprints. I'd love to have a group studying the gospel readings for the coming months, and another on grace, and another on forgiveness. Then there are several books I've stumbled upon in recent days that would be great fun to study and discuss . . . you see what I mean? Plenty of ideas, not enough time, and frankly, not enough sense of what others would find interesting, helpful, and relevant to their daily life and faith (*pssst . . . that's a hint — I want your input!*).

Then there's Supper Study. There again I have ideas, and several programs lined up. But what would interest you enough to get you to come out on a Wednesday evening? Or is that simply not possible given your schedule? But if you were interested, what topics

would you find stimulating and useful? National issues? Local? Spirituality-focused? Personal growth? Hot topics? Hollywood gossip? O.K., maybe not that last one — I just wanted to see if you're paying attention. There's also the matter of scheduling: do we keep Supper Study as is, every Wednesday, or do we change to a once-a-month format in the hopes of drawing more people and easing the church calendar a bit?

As you can see, there's lots to consider, and you can help. Give me your thoughts, ideas, suggestions. Give it a little thought as you sit under your umbrella at the beach or hike in the mountains or do your laps at the pool. Perhaps you have an idea for a group which you would like to lead, or a program to offer! Let me know. It's planning time.

On another note, thanks to all for your prayers and good wishes for Meghan in her China travels. She is doing fine so far and having a great time. —Julie Peeples



Cliff Karnes shares the gift of music on Sunday, July 13th.

All-Church Retreat at Blowing Rock, Southern Conference



Our annual fall sojourn to the mountains will be September 26-28 and our theme will be "Sacred Story: Exploring Our Calling."

We have great news concerning the costs! For the past few we held several fund raisers, the proceeds of which were set aside to help people come on the church retreat. We have money left over from these efforts, so we are pleased to announce that the cost this year to attend the retreat will be \$50 for adults, \$25 for children 5-18, and free for children under the age of 5!

Reservations are limited, so you must act early. A completed reservation form along with your check for half the amount due will hold your place. Think of this as CUCC's Economic Stimulus Package . . . or wise planning . . . or God's abundant grace. If you always wanted to come to "BRAG Retreat," this is the year to do it!

Reservation forms are outside my office. Return the form and your check, payable to CUCC, to me.

—Paul Davis



Margaret Caviness and Bonnie Kuester serve cake at the annual Fun Club Birthday Celebration.

Southern Conference Annual Meeting: Positive, Productive

The Southern Conference held its 2008 Annual Meeting June 26-27 in Suffolk, Virginia. In addition to the reports from officers and Conference Minister Steve Camp, the body took action on several resolutions, voted in a new slate of board members, and approved a budget. Congregational was well-represented, with our lay delegates Katharine Martin and Irwin Smallwood, visitors Margaret Byrd, Dot Ballinger, Ken and Evelyn Sell, Bill and Winnie Smith, Julie Peebles and Paul Davis, and, of course, Steve and Patricia Camp. All clergy are counted as voting delegates.



Some business items:

- New board members will include our own Paul Davis, who will serve a three-year term.
- After much discussion over the budget reflecting growing concern over the conference's deficit and overall financial struggles, a separate session was held for those wanting to work through the issues to discern possible solutions in addressing the needs. The group made several recommendations to the whole body, which then approved the budget as proposed.
- We will post at our website several Statements of Concern acted on at the meeting, as well as a draft of a Southern Conference Mission Statement.

The gathering also celebrated the graduation of those who have completed the Pastoral Leadership Development program, an alternative path to ordination for those in

situations which prevent them from full-time seminary enrollment.

With the inspired preaching of Dr. James Forbes, pastor emeritus of Riverside Church in New York, reports of good efforts such as the Western Association mission trip to Biloxi, and the sharing of resources and information, the meeting was a positive, upbeat, and hopeful gathering.



A Note of Gratitude

The Bereavement Committee members who purchased, prepared, served and cleaned up following the Rudd luncheon on Saturday, June 21st included Virginia Bright and Henrietta Ingram, co-chairs, assisted by Lib Basham, Diane Brewer, Winnie Smith and Virginia Stricklen. Providing ample desserts and fresh fruit were Bill Gull and Milton Shaw, Rosa Williamson and Ann Roberts. Thanks to all of these who embodied the caring of our congregation to Clyde Rudd's family in their time of loss.

Keep in Your Prayers ...

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), Beth Haunton (Lorie Tyson's friend), Mabel Huffines, The Lamberts, Millie Muskovin, Charles Stricklen, Virginia Stricklen, Matthew Wagoner (Margaret Wagoner's grandson), H. O. Williams

CUCC Business

Volunteers for July

July 20

Lay Reader: Midge Rasey
 Toddler Nursery: Tracie Cranford
 Children's Church: (N/A in July)
 Coffee Hour: Becky & Jo Fleischer

July 27

Lay Reader: Martha Nance
 Toddler Nursery: K. & T. Kolphenson
 Children's Church: (N/A in July)
 Coffee Hour: Ann Barton

July Ushers

Joann Myrick, Sticky Burch,
 Clyde Humphrey, Mike Dorko

Volunteers for August

August 3

Lay Reader: TBA
 Toddler Nursery: TBA
 Children's Church: (N/A in August)
 Coffee Hour: Kate Larson & Ish Whitfield

August 10

Lay Reader: TBA
 Toddler Nursery: TBA
 Children's Church: (N/A in August)
 Coffee Hour: Robin & Mike Dorko

August Ushers

Frank Kuester, John Taylor,
 Charles Hertlein

Financial Reports

Weekly Income	06/22/08	06/29/08
Pledged Offering	\$1,454.00	\$2,340.00
Unpledged Offering	444.86	764.00
Memorial Fund	120.00	175.00
Use of Church	---	50.00
Mission Trip	---	300.00
Total	\$1,918.86	\$3,629.00

Weekly Income	07/06/08	07/13/08
Pledged Offering	\$5,789.00	3,018.00
Unpledged Offering	1,153.71	509.00
Memorial Fund	40.00	150.00
Mission Trip	1,175.00	600.00
Christmas Fund	100.00	---
Pastor's Discret.	200.00	---
Mobile Meals	---	100.00
Total\$	\$5,757.71	\$4,377.00

Budget Income/Expense Summary

	June	Year-to-Date
Income	\$26,089.53	\$160,040.60
Expense	24,422.21	156,224.50
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,667.32	\$3,816.10

CUCC Business

Work Trip #1, CUCC Connections

Eight of us will leave this Sunday, July 20th, at 7:00 am and drive to New Orleans. We will check in regularly. Please keep in your prayers: Ken Aldridge, Jon Michael Aldridge, Jennifer Chi (friend of Jon Michael), Lena Eyring, Alice Franks, Kathy Rice (who will meet us there), Gentry Ranson, Jade Stoner (friends of Lena), and Paul Davis. They have set up a Google Group where you can read their posts and see their pictures. If you want to receive messages from the work team, send an e-mail to Paul and you will in turn receive an invitation to join the Google Group. Simply respond to that invitation, and that is all there is to the process.

Hot Stock Tip

We have twenty-two people going on our work trips this summer at a cost of about \$300 per person (we are asking each person to pay \$100). So we look to you, dear reader, for help. We are selling stock in our trip with shares available for \$100 (and fractions thereof). Participants from Trip #2 will be selling Stock Certificates in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday. Thank you for your interest and support!



Have Items or Services to Buy, Sell, Rent, Trade?

If so, the *CUCC Connections Board*, located near the Fellowship Hall, can help you find someone else at CUCC who may have what you want, or who needs what you have to offer. There is space to post items for sale or rent, such as a

home, car, lawnmower, motorcycle, etc., or services, such as home repairs, tutoring, or sitting services for children, pets, home, or adult care, to name a few. There is also space to post needed items or services. All you have to do is post your own notice, which may be typed or legibly hand-written, giving the date posted and contact information. When the notice is no longer needed, the person who posted it is asked to remove it. CUCC assumes no responsibility regarding the items or services.

Between now and the end of the year many people are moving, beginning school, or changing jobs, and may have items or services to offer, or may have a need. This is a very good time of year to give the Connections Board a try, and *get connected!* Check it out!



Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are in need of a few more Nursery Volunteers. We want two volunteers in the nursery, one who comes around 10:45 am and the other who takes the children downstairs during worship.

If you can help, please be in touch with Cathy Wheeler at wheelercc@rockinghamcc.edu or 336-342-3657. Children's Church will be suspended for the rest of the summer and will start up again in September. Those older children (age 6-8) should stay with their families during worship.

Other News & Notes

Oatmeal for GUM, Higher Ground, "Peace of Paper"

I am happy to report we have made our quota of oatmeal for June, plus we are well on our way into our quota for July.

I have spoken with Urban Ministry and they say they use at least fifty containers a month of oatmeal. There is another church that brings in oatmeal as well, so I am asking that we attempt to collect twenty-five containers each month. In count, due to the wonderful response in June, we only have to turn in one container for July; however, I would appreciate it if we could keep them coming to give Greensboro Urban Ministry a good supply. Thanks for helping out so well and please continue!

—Libby Bowles

Food Donations for Greensboro Urban Ministry: "You bring 'em, I'll take 'em."

The Board of Christian Service will begin collecting general food items at church in addition to our regular oatmeal project. Bring in your canned goods, place them in the specially marked containers, and a volunteer will take our items to Greensboro Urban Ministry. Small containers of peanut butter, regular cans of vegetables, meats, and fruits are especially needed. Bring in a few cans each week to assist people in our community who are struggling to make ends meet. Thank you!

Lunch for Higher Ground

Congregational's day to serve is coming up on Tuesday, July 22nd. Food donations (especially side dishes) and volunteers are always welcome. Food donations should be at the church by 10:45 on that Tuesday. For more info, contact Ish Whitfield (434-792-6707, 434-250-4364, or dancinchefish@msn.com).

UCC Sends "Christmas In July" Appeal

Some of us recently received notice that the UCC's special fund to support retired ministers and those facing emergency situations is in need of more contributions. They are receiving many more requests for assistance than in years past. Each year we receive a special offering on Christmas Eve for this good effort, the Christmas Fund, as it is known (formerly called Veterans of the Cross).

After discussing the request, Church Council is recommending that we give that offering greater emphasis and visibility during Advent in order to increase our giving. In addition, if any individuals would like to make a special donation before then, the website ucc.org has information about how to contribute, or call the church office for more information.



Peace of Paper: An Adventure in Journaling for Women and Men

Saturday, August 16, 10 am-2 pm

Spirit . . . Rest at the Nussbaum Center for Entrepreneurship
2007 Yanceyville St., Suite 119

**\$40 per person
(includes catered lunch)**

Save 25% if you register and pay before July 31, 2008.

An exploration of writing as fun, as creativity, as self-expression, and as prayer. This time is for personal

relaxation and reflection. No one will be required to share and there will be no critiquing or judging of participants' writing.

Contact Robin Dorko to register or for more information (339-9303 or robin@spiritrest.org).



Responding to Climate Change

On Saturday, August 23, there will be a day-long event, "Responding to Climate Change: Faith, Science and Action." The event will be held at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Durham and is "open to all who believe that caring for God's creation is a sacred trust."

Keynote Speakers will include Dr. William Chameides, Dean of Nicholas School for the Environment; and Dr. Ellen Davis, Professor of Biblical Studies, both of Duke Divinity School. There will be workshops on practical steps to reduce our energy consumption as well as activities for children 5-11 years old, and nursery/ childcare for infants and younger children. Cost will be \$15 for adults and \$5 for children (includes lunch). Children aged 4 and younger are free.

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church is at 1737 Hillandale Road, Durham (at the intersection of Hillandale and I-85). For registration and more information call 919-286-2273 or visit www.stlukesdurham.org.



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Congregational United Church of Christ
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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-two households have requested to be removed.

Community Shred-It Day

Saturday, July 19th — 1:00 to 3:00 pm
7360 W. Friendly Avenue, Suite 114

Identity theft is a major problem in America, and it is the fastest growing crime today. Shredding all unwanted mail and documents will help in the fight against identity theft.

Back by popular demand . . . American Partners Federal Credit Union and Shred-It are teaming up for a “Community-Wide Shred-It Day.” Shred-It will provide an on-site, state-of-the-art truck to securely shred and destroy all personal documents. Everyone is invited to bring all of their old or unwanted documents, receipts, bank statements, etc. to be safely discarded. This service is offered **free** to the entire community, and American Partners FCU encourages individuals to come out and support the fight against identity theft!

Enter your name into a drawing for a chance to win your own personal shredder! Come and enjoy some tasty treats! For more details, call American Partners FCU at 855-3553.

August Birthdays

- 1 Bill Smith
- 1 Rebecca Moore-Painter
- 1 Jean Clendenin
- 2 Julie Peoples
- 7 Paula Harder
- 7 Peg Stephenson
- 8 Mark Matthews
- 9 Andrew Swofford
- 11 Chip Prairie
- 12 Alexis Brown
- 14 Kathryn Taylor
- 15 John Porter
- 16 Alana Patterson
- 17 Margaret Caviness
- 18 Rosa Williamson
- 18 Frank Kuester
- 23 Brenda Langston
- 24 Brenda Schleunes
- 24 Hailley Humphrey
- 25 Svea Anderson
- 26 Anna Miller
- 26 Anne Barton
- 29 Regina Hayes
- 30 Dot Darnell
- 31 Michelle Naquin
- 31 Deborah Humphrey