

## Volunteers Needed

### Western North Carolina Association of the UCC to Meet Here

On Saturday, October 4th, CUCC will have the honor of hosting the 41st Annual Meeting of the Western North Carolina Association of the Southern Conference of the UCC. We expect approximately 200 participants from UCC churches in the association, an area that spreads from Whitsett in the east to Asheville in the west.

The deacons are working on the lunch and hospitality details for



this event. We will need lots of volunteers to help greet and guide people, help with parking, serving food, cleaning up, ushering, and so on. If you can help, please let Julie, Paul, Becky Fleischer or Bill Guill know.

Registration for the event will begin at 8:30 am and the Annual Meeting will begin with an opening Worship Service at 9:30 am. We will have three delegates plus clergy representing our congregation; all are welcome to attend as visitors.

## Work Trip #2 Photos – More Inside!



This is the first house we worked at.



Jenny and Bill installing corner bead at house number one.



Bill and Gayle working on house number one.



House number two.



## 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](http://www.congregationalucc.com/about/visitors.php).

### Our Next Newsletter

Deadline: Friday, September 5  
Publication: Wednesday, Sep. 10

News and events can be sent to [office@congregationalucc.com](mailto:office@congregationalucc.com).

Can't wait for news? Check out the Congregational UCC web site at [www.congregationalucc.com](http://www.congregationalucc.com). It is up-to-date, relevant, interesting, lively, and available 24 hours.

### Lectionary Readings

#### August 31, 2008

Exodus 3:1-15  
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

#### September 7, 2008

Exodus 12:1-14  
Psalm 149  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**Rev. Julie Peebles**  
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julie@congregationalucc.com

**Rev. William C. Smith**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. Paul Davis**  
Minister for Christian Education  
paul@congregationalucc.com

**Mr. Jimmy Buchanan**  
Choir Director  
jrbsoul@aol.com

**Ms. Charlotte Evans**  
Congregational Nurse  
opendoornc@aol.com  
Drop-In Hours: 4<sup>th</sup> 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  
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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## From the Pastor

# Changing Season, Changing Program



Our outside thermometer read 63 this morning. While the summer heat is surely not all behind us, it does lend a tiny

hint of autumn waiting just around the corner when the mornings are cooler.

For many years here, the Fall season has meant the start-up of programs. Supper Study is one of those mainstays in our calendar. We'll be making a change in Supper Study this season: instead of every week, we will have a program **every first and third Wednesday**. One of those suppers each month will be covered dish, the other will be a meal provided for a modest cost, as in past years. Given all our overly busy lives, the rise in gas prices, and our shared need to be wise stewards of all our resources, this change makes a lot of sense, and those "regulars" with whom I've spoken agree this is a good move.

We have a great line-up of programs for the **first and third Wednesdays**, beginning September 17 with Justin Catanoso coming to talk to us about his wonderful book, *My Cousin the Saint*. We will follow two weeks later with a program for church members and others to share their ideas on "going green," on saving money in these tough times, and on sustainable living. We will have our political forum with lots of candidates, and sessions on end-of-life issues. Please plan to join us! And on those "off" Wednesdays, I encourage individuals and families to have a relaxed, peaceful evening at home! Turn off the TV and talk, play board games,

take a walk together. Resist the urge to do more, schedule more, and simply be. —Julie Peebles



## Two Opportunities to Learn More on China

Saturday, September 13, UNCG will sponsor a Moon Festival (or also known as a Mid-autumn Festival), a multicultural Asian event that will take place on the campus. There will be Moon Cakes! Then on Sunday the 14th, Jamie Anderson, member of our church and Associate Professor of History, will give a talk to the Emeritus Society, discussing what will be next for China following the Olympics. This take will be at the Weatherspoon Auditorium at 3 pm. Both events are free.



## Keep in Your Prayers ...

Jenny Berggren, Sue Blanton (friend of Charlie & Debra Hertlein), Lauren Brower, Evelyn Chamberlain, Bob Crews (Cathy Wheeler's father), Mark DeHaven, Fran Ditto, The Dollyhigh Family, Jessica Ellisor (Teresa Earle's niece), Emily Field, Bob Foster, Kaye Gardiner (Midge Rasey's daughter), The Guerra Family, Beth Haunton (Lorie Tyson's friend), Barbara Hollifield, Mabel Huffines, The Lamberts, Amber McKinnon, Millie Muskovin, Virginia Stricklen, Matthew Wagoner (Margaret Wagoner's grandson), H. O. Williams

## Education Notes

# Work Trip News, Confirmation & More



We took two trips to New Orleans in the past month. While there, we worked with two different groups, UCC Disaster Recovery Minis-

tries, and First Street, Peck, and Wesley United Methodist Church Recovery Project (also known as United Saints). So each group stayed in two different locations. In all, we worked on 3 houses whose owners have been waiting well over a year to receive assistance. The weather the first week was hot, though not as hot as Greensboro, with afternoon showers, and the second week the weather was cool and rainy all week. We worked mostly inside so we did not melt. Both groups were able to tour the city and spend some time in the more fun areas of the city. Oh, and Trip #2 adopted a kitten who seemed to be not long for the world and brought her home. "Pontch," for the Lake and the neighborhood we worked in, Pontchartrain Park. By the way, posted outside my office and on our site is an article about an innovative development project involving this area, put together in part by Wendell Pierce, an actor formally on "The Wire" and whose parents lived next door to our house. We were able to spend 45 minutes with Wendell.

We took a lot of pictures, and sent email messages to folks interested in updates. The messages will be collected and available on the church website, along with some pictures; more pictures will be available at this link: <http://picasaweb.google.com/pauldavis26>.

On behalf of the groups and individuals who participated, thank you for your generous support and good wishes!  
—Paul Davis

## Confirmation

Letters went out inviting youth to participate in Confirmation, the process by which The Church (our church included) formally nurtures new members. The Confirmation Classes are a combination of learning about the Church and our denomination, learning about our church, and learning about our walk with God. We provide mentors who help shepherd people through it all. Want to know more? Please be in touch with Paul or Julie. Our first meeting will be Sunday, Sep. 21.

## Book Group

The next book we will read is by a local author, *My Cousin The Saint: A Search for Faith, Family, and Miracles*, by Justin Catanoso. Justin will be speaking at our first Supper Study on Wednesday, September 17, and we will have the opportunity to purchase books at a discount then. We hope to be able to purchase some before then at a discount. Call the office if you would like us to reserve one for you.

## Agents of Grace

Thank you to all the folks who volunteered as Agents of Grace on August 12. CUCC's twelve "Agents" included Lesley Barker, Mary Beth Boone, Ann Buffington, Fran Ditto, Charles Glenz, Nancy Glenz, Robyn Greenberg, Lee Kirkman, Marjorie Liles, Paul Macy, Lorie Tyson and Bob Williams.

We volunteered in schools, retirements homes, office buildings, and other sites for the morning, then returned for a Chick-Fil-A lunch afterwards. We all enjoyed working with members of other churches around the city and in some cases, getting to know folks from our own congregation better. Thanks again and plan on volunteering in August 2009!

## More New Orleans Photos



The yard at house number two.



Jenny, Cathy, Nancy and Susan on the town Saturday. It rained.



Pontch, our Rescue Kitten.



Gayle Currie, Sankey Moore-Painter, Nancy Bennett, Teresa Earles, Randy Yardley, Milton Shaw, Bill Guill, Susan Lane, Jenny Berggren, Paul Davis, Cathy Wheeler, Beth Mulberry (kneeling)

# What's Next: "SecondHalf," Food Collection, Tai Chi

Join others who are exploring the next step at a significant intersection of life - such as retirement - in an upcoming learning experience called:

***SecondHalf: What can you do with the rest of your life?***

During the program, led by Pastor Brady Faggart, people gather around tables telling their life stories, reviewing important decisions, identifying their gifts, laughing and growing together.

The program helps participants to seek God's guidance and to explore opportunities to serve others. *SecondHalf* grows out of Pastor Brady's experience in retirement, and he has written a booklet to help others who are seeking direction at this important time of life. Many friendships have developed during the series, and a growing number of people are participating.

**Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 - 9:00 pm**

and

**Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 am - 12:30 pm**

**First Lutheran Church  
3600 W. Friendly Avenue**

The cost to participate is \$5 to cover refreshments and supplies. A free booklet covering the sessions is provided; additional copies are \$2 each.

To register, contact Pastor Brady at 665-6439 or bfgaggart@triad.rr.com by Wednesday, September 15th.



**Thanks for Your Support**

Dear Friends of Greensboro Urban Ministry,

May we take this opportunity to thank you for the food donation of 203 pounds. What a wonderful

gesture to help those less fortunate. Your support to Greensboro Urban Ministry is awesome for our programs, vital to us as we continue to provide "pathways of hope in time of need." Our organization is directly involved with community services, including the soliciting and distribution of food, clothes, shelters for the homeless, and all aspects of help to the less fortunate in our area—those who are down on their luck or those who have permanent or semi-permanent needs and problems. The help you give will allow us to give something extra to those in need. We are thankful there are so many caring individuals in our community who remember the less fortunate, and want you to know that donations such as this are so important in our efforts to help the needy and those who are dependent on our agency services.

As director of the Food Distribution Center, I am reminded daily of the many families in our area who are in need, and with the response of donors such as you folk, the needs are met. Our heartfelt thanks for this donation.

Sincerely,  
*Pat Spain*  
*Food Distribution Director*  
*Greensboro Urban Ministry*



**Tai Chi for Health!**

**September 16 – October 28  
(Seven Tuesdays)**

**3:00 to 4:00 pm**

**Congregational UCC**

- Endorsed by the Arthritis Foundations of the US, Great Britain, and Australia
- Easy and safe to learn
- Certified instructor Naomi Galbreath

Medical studies have shown this program helps people reduce pain and improve strength, balance, and flexibility. Almost anyone with almost any physical condition can use this program to improve health and quality of life.

The fee for the seven-week course is \$70 to be paid in full at the first class meeting. Plan to come early to register.



## CUCC Business

**Volunteers**

**August 31**

- Lay Reader: Kate Larson
- Toddler Nursery: Becky Fleischer & Sunny Covington
- Coffee Hour: Melinda Matthews & Cynthia Brewer

**August Ushers**

- Frank Kuester, John Taylor, Charles Hertlein

**September 7**

- Lay Reader: TBA
- Toddler Nursery: Kirsten Joseph & Michelle Kennedy
- Coffee Hour: Jeri & Katherine Rowe

**September Ushers**

- Betty & Mac Mackenzie, Sherrill Hall, Karl Schleunes

**Financial Reports**

Weekly Income	08/17/08	08/24/08
Pledged Offering	\$4,337.00	1,591.00
Unpledged Offering	375.00	826.05
Memorial Fund	25.00	---
BRAG Deposits	50.00	687.50
Mission Trip	---	75.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,787.00</b>	<b>\$3,179.55</b>

**Budget Income/Expense Summary**

	Aug. MTD	Year-to-Date
Income	\$17,732.42	\$204,948.22
Expense	9,165.73	193,968.60
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$8,566.69	\$10,979.62

## Finding A Way to Live In Peace, No Child Left Inside

*“Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”*

— 1 John 4:11-12

When the Younan family arrived in Greenville, SC, on September 1, 2007, like many refugee families, they had to start their lives over. They did not speak English, have jobs waiting for them or have a support system to help them acclimate to living in a new country.

Originally from Baghdad, Younan and Layla Younan fled Iraq three years prior and were living in Syria with five of their seven children before being given the opportunity to resettle in the U.S. The Younans faced challenges because of their belief in Christianity and when Younan and one of his children were hit by a car bomb, they knew they had to leave for the safety of their family. Now living in the U.S., the family has had to face a whole new set of challenges - acclimating to American culture, learning the English language and earning a living. Luckily, their need for a caring support system fit perfectly with one congregation's desire to walk with the vulnerable people in their community.

Catherine Cuneo's pastor at Disciples United Methodist Church challenged her and the other members of her congregation to discern how they could be of service. Catherine knew where she wanted to give, but knew it would require the support and involvement of the whole congregation. She stood before her congregation during a Sunday service and told them she'd

been led to helping refugees and wanted to know if others would be willing to as well. The outpouring of help was tremendous. “In our church, if you ask, people will respond,” said Catherine.

The congregation was introduced to the Younan family and began a sponsorship that has moved from advocacy to friendship. They have taught members of the family to drive, donated furniture and continue to help them learn to speak English.

“Individuals who've helped have gotten so much more out of it than what they've put in,” says Rebecca, a congregation member. “To hear Layla say her first English words made tears come to your eyes.”

The family has had to fight stereotypes associated with refugees and Iraqis but they are optimistic about their future in the U.S. thanks in large part to the relationship they have forged with the church.

“It means a lot to the family that someone outside of their own family or culture is in their life and accepts them without the pre-conceived notion of Iraqis,” says Beverly, another congregation member.

“This is going to be our new home. We're not going to worry about someone hating us because of our beliefs,” Younan says with relief in his voice. “Our kids have their futures here. We are living in peace.”

—*Lutheran Family Services of the Carolinas*

*Many thanks to those in our congregation who continue to assist and support our Montagnard Family.*

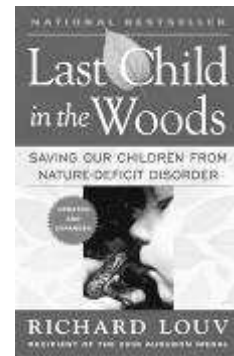
### **No Child Left Inside**

***Last Child in the Woods*  
Presentation & Book Signing**

**Thursday, Sep. 25, 7:00 pm**

**Greensboro Montessori School  
2856 Horse Pen Creek Road**

Author Richard Louv, whose award-winning book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder*, has sparked an international movement to reunite children and nature, will bring his message to Greensboro on at a public lecture and book signing. The free event will be held (appropriately) outside. For more information about the event go to [www.thegms.org](http://www.thegms.org) or call 336-668-0119, ext. 273.



Louv's visit to Greensboro will be the centerpiece of a community-wide celebration of national Take a Child Outside Week, September

24th through September 30th, that will include everything from a night hike at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch of the public library to a workshop on wilderness skills at Bur-Mil Park. Individuals and families can also make a pledge to take a child on an outside activity—go to [www.takeachildoutside.org](http://www.takeachildoutside.org) to make the pledge and to post your experiences on-line.

The Greensboro Montessori School is compiling a list of community activities available during that week. If you already have an activity planned, or if you would like to plan one, please let them know at [rlevent@thegms.org](mailto:rlevent@thegms.org).



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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-four households have requested to be removed.*

## Among Our Members

Appreciation is extended once again to our loyal and faithful church family following Lewis' surgery. Your prayers and many deeds of kindness were graciously accepted and helped speed the recovery. A very special thanks to Julie, Paul, Charlotte and Bill Smith.

Fondly,  
*Lewis & Uldine Duckworth*

The Rev. Care Goodstal and the Rev. Professor Bryan D. Spinks wish to share the joyful news of their recent engagement. They welcome your prayers during this time of great transition as they prepare to join their lives in marriage.

### **Hospice Offering Support Groups**

Hospice & Palliative Care of Greensboro is offering a variety of Support Groups for bereaved adults this fall, beginning in mid-September. For details, see the brochure on the hallway bulletin board, or go to [www.hospicegso.org](http://www.hospicegso.org), or call 621-5565.

## September Birthdays

- 01 Ed Taylor
- 01 Dawn Humphrey
- 05 John Nance
- 06 Fred Cromartie
- 06 Evelyn Chamberlain
- 07 Kate Larson
- 07 Fran Ditto
- 08 Lucia Rueppell
- 10 Cathy Wheeler
- 10 Robyn Greenberg
- 11 Isaac Prairie
- 11 Beth Hoagland
- 11 Karen Ritter
- 12 Lauren Brower
- 15 Holly Humphrey
- 15 Austin Lane
- 19 Jay Harder
- 19 Tony Macy
- 20 Margaret Wagoner
- 24 Ted Fields
- 24 Peter Patterson
- 26 Evelyn Ridge
- 29 Pam Aldridge