

## Save A Life

# Make a Donation Before Vacation

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**Tuesday, May 19**  
**2:30 – 7:00 pm**  
**Congregational UCC**

### Why give?

Every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood. That's a lot of blood.

But only 5% of the eligible U.S. population donates blood in any given year. Healthy donors are the only source of blood. Currently there is no substitute.

Blood is needed for emergencies and for people who have cancer, blood disorders, sickle cell, anemia and other illnesses. Some people need regular blood transfusions to live.

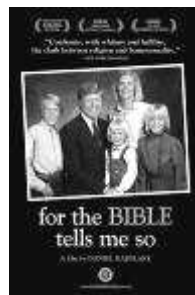
Imagine if giving blood was part of everyone's life. Something you did on a regular basis, like eating at your favorite restaurant. What kind of difference would that make? For nearly 5 million people who receive blood transfusions every year, your donation can make the difference between life and death.

### Tips for a Positive Donation Experience

- Eat a small calcium-rich, low-fat meal prior to donation.
- Drink plenty of water or juice throughout the day.
- Bring a photo ID or American Red Cross blood donor card.
- Wear a short-sleeve shirt or one that can be comfortably raised above the elbows.
- Plan to avoid heavy lifting or exercise after donation.
- Feel free to ask questions, and please follow any additional instructions given.

Please seriously consider donating at our church community blood drive! See Bill Smith to set up an appointment time. Save a life and sail the seas – enter to win a spring cruise for two!

The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood. Give the gift of life.



### For The Bible Tells Me So – Sunday May 17

This hour and a half long documentary, as *New York Magazine* states, “confronts, with whimsy and hellfire, the clash between religion and homosexuality.” *Salon.com* notes that it is “Powerful! A brave and noble effort to heal a gaping wound in our society.”

Through the experiences of five very normal, Christian, American families we discover how people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child or family member.

Following the film we will have time for discussion. Childcare will be provided and there will be light refreshments. Invite your friends and family members and join us as we continue to seek greater understanding and common ground as people of faith.



**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, May 15  
Publication: Wednesday, May 22

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

#### May 10, 2009

Acts 8:26-40  
Psalm 22:25-31  
I John 4:7-21  
John 15:1-8

#### May 17, 2009

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
I John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**400 West Radiance Drive  
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**Rev. Julie Peeples**  
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**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

# A Story to Tell



Last Sunday afternoon as Paul and I walked out of the church building, the voices from the Montagnard

congregation rose up from downstairs. It was a beautiful, joyous sound: they were singing in their own language the hymn, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations." A story to tell indeed, I thought. These good people, who fled such hardship and oppression in their homeland to start over with nothing in an unfamiliar place, were singing of their faith and their gratitude. I thought about how our story has become woven together with theirs to the benefit of both congregations. I thought about all the amazing artwork that had graced the sanctuary that morning and the glorious creativity expressed. What a varied, inspiring story God continues to tell through all who open their hearts to that creative Spirit!

I thought as well about Lauren Brower. On the one hand, cancer appeared to have won the long battle, yet in truth, Lauren won. She fought on her own terms, she maintained her own sense of dignity, strength and beauty throughout it all.

God's great artistry is revealed in so many ways. Like a potter, God shapes our lives and makes of them useful, beautiful vessels. Like a poet, God reveals truth in ways simple and profound. Like a painter, God chooses a vast array of colors and forms to work with. Like a weaver, God takes separate strands, eases the knots, reconnects endings, and makes a whole.

Among the blessings I carried with me as we headed for home that

day was the realization of how intertwined our lives are, how unique each story is, how our creative God manages to love us all, and how God calls us to love one another. God has a story to tell, and we are all part of that divine tale.

—Julie Peeples



### Keep in Your Prayers ...

Jamie Anderson (on death of his brother-in-law), Sue Blanton (friend of Charlie & Debra Hertlein), Evelyn Chamberlain, Carlene Dix, The Dollyhigh Family, Jessica Ellisor (Teresa Earles' niece), Kaye Gardiner (Midge Rasey's daughter), The Guerra Family, Irma Hoff, Henrietta Ingram, Mariana Kuester (Frank Kuester's mother), The Lamberts, Marie McLennan, Virginia Stricklen, Matthew Wagoner (grandson of Margaret Wagoner), Marie Williams, John David Wilson (Pam Aldridge's cousin in Iraq), All looking for employment

**Education Notes**

# Summer Work Trip, Parents of Young Children & More



A reminder that there will be an organizing meeting on Sunday, May 17, following worship, for those interested in participating in this summer's work trip. We'll meet for about 45 minutes in the Parlor, beginning 20 minutes after the Benediction. To refresh your memory, the work trip will be to New Orleans, from August 9-16. It is open to church participants and their friends, and to people either 16 and older, or who are reasonably mature. No particular experience or skills are necessary. Please let me know if you are interested and if you will be able to come to the meeting.

—Paul Davis



## Parents of Young Children

There will be a breakfast meeting on Sunday, May 17, beginning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We want to make some plans for the summer and fall, and want to get your thoughts. Childcare will be available. Please make a reservation by contacting the office or Paul.



## ArtBeat at CUCC

Many thanks to the eighteen folks who shared their art with us Sunday, and many thanks to Lynn Magyar, Jamie Anderson and Flo Taylor who helped with the stepping stone project, and to Mary Beth Boone and Lynn who helped with displaying the works. We have many creative folks in our congregation!

## Know of Anyone Interested in a Part-Time Job?

Regina Hayes will be leaving us as our Nursery Attendant at the end of the school year. We are looking for someone who enjoys working with children and is available Sunday mornings, Wednesday Supper Study evenings, and for other occasional events. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this paid position, please speak with Paul.



*The National Conference for Community and Justice's Award-Winning Human Relations & Leadership Summer Camp for High School Students*

ANYTOWN is a fun and exciting week created to provide rising juniors and seniors in high school with a serious but fun experience focused on learning about the value of leadership, respect, unity, inclusiveness, community-building and diversity in their lives.

More of a personal growth experience than a traditional summer camp, activities include discussion groups, workshops and learning experiences on a variety of human relations issues as well as fun games and activities.

ANYTOWN is like no other summer camp you will ever attend! Register for an unforgettable experience on the mountain at Blowing Rock:

Session I: July 26-31, 2009  
Session II: August 2-7, 2009

Register before May 20, 2009 to save 10%! Visit [www.nccjtriad.org](http://www.nccjtriad.org) for additional information, an application, financial aid forms or to pay tuition online.



## Honor Our Graduates

With spring comes the season of graduations. The church will honor our graduates on either Sunday, May 31 or June 7. Please let the office know if you have a family member who is graduating and which Sunday would work best you. For all graduates, please provide the office with their name, degree/honors earned and future plans.



## Johns River Valley Camp

Johns River Valley Camp has opportunities for children from grade 3 up to grade 12. Of particular note for us is an Intergenerational Camp for families, June 14-17, a Beginners Camp for grade 3, July 23-29, and a Grandparent/Grandchild Camp, July 30-Aug. 1. Brochures are outside Paul's office. The church has some funds available to provide assistance for people to attend JRVC, a ministry of the Southern Conference. Speak with Paul.



The friendly and energetic staff at Johns River Valley Camp.

# Grace Community Church, Aid to Hmok Family Needed

Grace Community Church (GCC) began meeting at our church this past Sunday. They will be using space on the lower level. The congregation arrived about 12:45 pm on Sunday and numbered near 140 people, with lots of families and children.

We have a joint committee of members from our church and GCC that will help with communications and deal with issues as they arise.



Above: GCC Pastor Rmah.  
Below: GCC meeting with announcements led by Yno, one the church's leaders.

Serving from our church are Lynn Hamilton, Bill Barker, Sankey Moore-Painter, and Paul Davis. Feel free to speak with any of them if you have questions.

We must say that the Grace Community folks have been most gracious and thankful for use of the space.



### A Family in Need of Our Help

Ju Nie, the father of the Montagnard family that the church is sponsoring, has lost his job and the family is now living on unemployment.

Therefore, there is a need for some assistance from church members.

We are asking that some items be donated to help them until Ju Nie can find a full time job.

Suggested items: diapers (disposable and non-disposable) to fit a 15-month old baby, jars baby food (specifically fruits and vegetables), paper products, and any basic baby items. There will be boxes set up at church to receive these items. If you have any questions, please see Libby Bowles, Lynn Hamilton or Paul Macy. Thanks for your help.



## CUCC Business

### CUCC Food Donations to Greensboro Urban Ministry

04/22/09-05/06/09: 36 pounds

#### Volunteers

##### May 10

Lay Reader: Camille Prairie  
Toddler Nursery: Tricia Sutter  
Coffee Hour: T. Earles & T. Vaughn

##### May 17

Lay Reader: Mary Beth Boone  
Toddler Nursery: S. Lane & B. Magyar  
Coffee Hour: S. Shoaf & T. Sutter

#### May Ushers

E. Driver, C. Hertlein, F. Kuester, M. Shaw

#### Financial Reports

Weekly Income	04/26/09	05/03/09
Pledged Offering	\$1,665.00	\$7,107.00
Unpledged Offering	777.00	979.80
Cora Anthony Trust	600.00	---
Use of Church	400.00	445.00
Charles Smith Fund	500.00	---
Supper Study	---	20.00
Miscellaneous	---	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,942.00</b>	<b>\$8,561.80</b>

#### Budget Income/Expense Summary

	April	YTD
Income	\$27,381.08	\$117,181.81
Expense	33,220.90	104,386.30
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$5,839.82)	\$12,795.51



### CUCC Offers Over \$2,000 For OGHS!

With our recent offering and efforts for One Great Hour of Sharing, our congregation has raised \$2,118 to date to support self-help, development, and relief projects in the US and around the world. Many thanks to all who contributed, and to our Board of Christian Service for their good leadership!

# Swine Flu: What is it and Am I at Risk?



We have been inundated with information lately about the Swine Flu. It is hard to know what is fact and what is fiction!

Is it serious or has it been made to seem that way by all the publicity? Am I at risk? What are the symptoms? We all have a lot of questions. **Don't panic** — here are some facts.

Swine Flu is a respiratory disease usually found in pigs. People usually do not get Swine Flu, but it does happen. Swine Flu is being passed from person to person just like the seasonal flu is passed by coughing, sneezing and touching something with flu virus and then touching your mouth or nose.

CDC (Center for Disease Control) does not believe that people get Swine Flu from eating pork. Pork in the United States is safe to eat. Pork should always be cooked to a temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit.

### Signs & Symptoms of Swine Flu

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Body Aches
- Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting

Those with swine flu can infect others **ONE** day before they have symptoms and up to **SEVEN** days after symptoms start.

### Protect Yourself

- Wash your hands!
- Maintain good health habits (bodies that are stressed and run down are more at risk for disease)

- Get plenty of sleep
- Manage your stress
- Exercise
- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough, then wash your hands.
- Throw away tissues in the trash after you use them.
- **Wash your hands!** Alcohol based hand cleaners can be used if there is not soap or water nearby. We have several containers of hand-sanitizer here at CUCC located near entrances to the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to use these deliberately and often!
- If you are sick, stay at home from work or school and limit contact with others.

**WASH YOUR HANDS!**  
There are prescription medications that can treat Swine Flu and these are offered only if you are diagnosed with it. There is not a vaccine to protect against Swine Flu and if you had a flu shot this year, it will not protect you against it.

For more information and daily updates visit [www.cdc.gov/swineflu](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu) or [www.guilfordhealth.org](http://www.guilfordhealth.org).

Stay healthy!  
Charlotte



### What's Next?

If you are experiencing a significant transition, consider this ...

### SecondHalf: What Can You Do With The Rest Of Your Life?

Friday, May 29,  
7:00-9:00 pm

and  
Saturday, May 30,  
8:30 am-2:00 pm

First Lutheran Church  
3600 West Friendly Avenue

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

Participants will help one another to seek God's guidance and to explore key questions such as "Who are you?" and "Whose are you?"

**SecondHalf** grows out of Pastor Brady's experiences and material developed by Quaker educator Parker Palmer.

Many friendships have developed during previous sessions of this popular series.

Suggested contribution: \$10 to cover costs. A free booklet covering the sessions is provided. For details and registration, contact Pastor Brady at 665-6439 or [bfaggart@triad.rr.com](mailto:bfaggart@triad.rr.com), by May 27.



### Need A Job Or Service? Have A Job Or Service To Offer?

Don't forget about our great community bulletin board, outside the Rowland Room on the east side of the building. It's a great way to leave a job notice or pick one up!



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Congregational United Church of Christ  
400 West Radiance Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27403

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The newsletter is available online. 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-seven households have requested to be removed.*

## Dining For Friends Party

Robin and Mike Dorko and Barbara Rice invite you to Bluegrass on the Lake featuring The Martha Bassett Band on Saturday, May 9 from 6:30 to 10:30 pm! This is a Dining For Friends Party to support Triad Health Project. Come help us celebrate Congregational UCC's continuing ministry to THP and Higher Ground!

The event will take place at 1708 Lakemont Drive in Greensboro. *Directions: Bryan Blvd. West to Fleming Road exit, left on Fleming, left onto Fleming Terrace, left onto Lakemont Drive.*



## 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 Jim F. 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