

## Good News in Action

### 2009 Work Trip to New Orleans

Our 2009 work crew will leave this Sunday morning at 7:00 am. They will drive all day to New Orleans, and will work Monday through Friday. Many thanks to everyone who contributed funds for the trip. Many thanks to those who will pray for folks on the trip. If you would like to keep up with the news and pictures daily, you can go to this site:

<http://sites.google.com/site/congregationaluccworktrip2009/>

Our participants: Alice Franks, Beth Mulberry, Bill Guill, Billy Humphrey, Cathy Wheeler, Gayle Currie, Jade Stoner, Jenny Berggren, Jon Michael Aldridge, Julie Peeples, Ken Aldridge, Lena Eyring, Milton Shaw, Nancy Bennett, Paul Davis, Sankey Moore-Painter, Susan Lane, Teresa Earles, and Terri Vaughn.



Lucia Kalconnis-Rueppell, who was baptized on July 19, is being presented by Julie, along with her sister, Anika, and Katie Barton.



### The 8th Annual Agents of Grace Community Service Event: Saturday, August 29th

Agents of Grace is a Christian-based organization, open to all, dedicated to showing the love of God by bringing people together to serve the community in a variety of settings. CUCC will participate in this year's event on August 29th. Please contact Fran Ditto to sign up or for more information (706-9275), or pick up a registration form on the display case outside the church office.



**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, August 14  
Publication: Wednesday, Aug. 19

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 9, 2009**  
2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33  
Psalm 130  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2  
John 6:35, 41-51

**August 16, 2009**  
1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14  
Psalm 111  
Ephesians 5:15-20  
John 6:51-58



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

400 West Radiance Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
Phone: 336-274-5378/274-0838  
Web: www.congregationalucc.com

**Rev. Julie Peeples**  
Senior Pastor  
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. Edna Olayiwoya**  
Director of Children's Music &  
Bella a Cappella  
olayiwe@gcsnc.com

**Mr. Bill Herndon**  
Organist  
rrbill@triad.rr.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. Evelyn Blane**  
Nursery Director  
evelyn.blane@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

# Building on Our Strength



“We have something special here, don’t we?!” That was the comment made by a member on a recent Sunday. I wholeheartedly

agree – we do indeed have something special here!

And when you have something special, you take extra good care of it. Several years ago, church management experts shifted their approach, advising congregations to stop focusing so much time and energy on weaknesses and instead to identify strengths and build on those.

One of our greatest strengths — perhaps *the* greatest — is the loving, compassionate spirit of our members and regular visitors. So how do we build on that vital strength? I want to suggest five ways:

1. **PRAY:** Make a habit each day to remember those on our prayer list, our staff, our congregation and our ministry together. Ask God to fill all with healing, peace, strength. Or simply be still and hold all in the Light of God’s grace.
2. **NOTICE:** Look around on Sunday morning. Who’s been missing in action for a while? Give ‘em a call, send an email letting them know they are missed, asking if they are o.k. Don’t leave it to staff; when a person hears from members and friends, it means a great deal.
3. **RISK:** Talk with people, even if you aren’t sure they are newcomers. Invite them to come join you for coffee hour after worship, introduce them to others. People are rarely offended by someone asking their name and if they are new (even if they are

not), but are more likely to be offended by no one speaking to them in the sanctuary or fellowship hall! Want to feel more “plugged in?” Take a risk: stay for refreshments, talk to people, come for a program, volunteer.

4. **ASK:** If you or a loved one have a need, are facing surgery or other procedures – whatever may be weighing heavily on you at present, let staff and other members know rather than assuming people will somehow hear about it. We all want to support you.
5. **LOVE:** When you have a concern, go to the appropriate person and speak from a place of love. When you are grateful for the efforts of other members or staff, let them know. To truly love another person, a group, a congregation, is to understand that perfection is neither a helpful goal nor a reasonable expectation. At the end of the day what we will cherish is how well we loved and were loved, whether we walked in grace with one another.

We really do have something special here. Let’s build on it.

—Julie Peeples



# Sunday School, Church Pews, Picnic & Auction



Thank you to all who sent cards and expressions of concern on the recent death of my mother. I was able to spend a week with my father,

helping him get things and details organized. Thank you for the time to be away, and for your continued support.

—Paul Davis



## Sunday School Begins!

Sunday School will begin for our children and the Smith Class on August 30th at 10:00 am. We'll have an Opening Day party, a common lesson for the day, and some activities we can share together. We'll meet in the basement, and move from there to the classrooms. Hope you will join us!



## For Sale: Church Pews

We have two pews that are 8 feet long, two pews that are 12 feet long (they come in two sections), and we have several sets of theater-style seats with pew ends. These are "extra" pews that we no longer need (the pews formally were for the choir and were replaced by chairs, and the balcony seats were taken out to make room for the sound system and for the hand-bells). The Board of Management will hold its own silent auction and offer these to the highest bidder. Bid sheets will be on each pew and section of seats. They have been appraised at \$250 and

\$175 for the pews. The bidding will start a bit lower. The auction will end on August 30 and winners announced in worship. If you require help moving the pews, this can be arranged for an additional \$25 per section. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the All-Church Retreat.



## Church Picnic and Silent Auction

Many thanks to those who helped with and participated in the Church Picnic. The weather was excellent, the food was abundant, and the company was delightful. And, the Silent Auction was a smashing success, raising almost \$2,000 for the Mission Trip! Your generosity was tremendous, both on the part of item givers and on the part of the item bidders. We are talking about another after-church picnic, either in late summer or early fall.



Gayle Currie, giving results for the Silent Auction at the Church Picnic on July 19th.



## A Note of Appreciation

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Greensboro Urban Ministry deeply appreciates your gift of \$1,125. Your support helps us to share in very tangible ways the love of God to so many people in need in our local community. The recession has hit many families and children very hard. Many folks are coming in for food, clothing, and financial assistance for the very first time. Most people think our biggest demands come in the winter. Actually, more people come to us for assistance while school is out because children are at home creating more demand for food and other essentials.

Continue to pray for our new Beyond Pathways program which rapidly rehouses homeless families with children living at our Pathways Center, with help from several supporting congregations. We are working hard now making plans for our annual Greater Greensboro CROP Hunger Walk which will be held October 18 beginning at New Bridge Bank Park. Volunteers are needed for our CROP steering Committee as well as many other areas of the ministry. Please give me a call, 271-5959, ext. 302, if you would like to learn more about various volunteer activities.

Thank you for being an instrument of God's love in this community through your generous giving! Bless you!

Sincerely,  
The Rev. Mike Aiken  
Executive Director

# Valet Parking at CUCC, BFW Update

If you or someone you know could use some assistance getting into the church on Sunday mornings, please let one of the ushers know or call the office during the week. If you drive up to the front of the sanctuary, we'll have someone park your car so you can walk in from the narthex rather than the parking lot. After worship, your car will be brought back for you.



## Bread for the World News Update

Rep. Howard Coble has signed on as cosponsor of the Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act (H.R. 2139). Letters and personal advocacy by Bread for the World supporters played a big part in convincing Mr. Coble. Those of us in Brad Miller's district must now take up the challenge to get him to support the bill as well!

The Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009 (H.R. 2139) will ensure that programs run by different government agencies are coordinated and effective. The bill's major provisions, in brief, are that it:

- Requires the President to develop and implement a National Strategy for Global Development.
- Requires the President to develop and implement a rigorous system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of U.S. foreign assistance.
- Requires that both American taxpayers and recipients of foreign assistance have full access to information on U.S. foreign assistance.
- Repeals outdated provisions from the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

### Keep Writing!

If your representative is Howard Coble, please write to him at the address below, thanking him for co-sponsoring H.R. 2139.

*The Honorable Howard Coble  
U. S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3306*

If your representative is Brad Miller please write to urge him to cosponsor H.R. 2139. It helps if one writes a hand-written letter, saying something about oneself and why one thinks that H.R.2139 is important.

*The Honorable Brad Miller  
U. S. House of Representatives  
1127 Longworth House Office  
Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3313*

Thank you! H.R. 2139 will help reduce taxpayer expenditure, but at the same time it will be a huge step forward towards eliminating poverty.

—The Board of Christian Service



## CUCC Business

### Volunteers

#### August 9

Lay Reader: TBA  
Toddler Nursery: Tammy Heil  
Coffee Hour: Robin & Mike Dorko

#### August 16

Lay Reader: TBA  
Toddler Nursery: Anne Barton  
Coffee Hour: Becky & Jo Fleischer

### Ushers

Ed Driver, Charles Hertlein, Frank Kuester, Milton Shaw



### Financial Reports

Weekly Income	06/28/09	07/05/09
Pledged Offering	\$2,802.53	\$4,478.00
Unpledged Offering	906.00	483.00
Use of Church	---	400.00
BRAG Silent Auction	---	308.50
Work Trip	---	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,708.53</b>	<b>\$5,694.50</b>

Weekly Income	07/12/09	07/19/09
Pledged Offering	\$2,446.00	\$4,163.00
Unpledged Offering	613.00	620.01
Use of Church	182.50	137.50
BRAG Silent Auction	103.00	340.00
Memorial Fund	---	30.00
Miscellaneous	---	10.00
Book Sale	---	10.00
Work Trip	417.00	178.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,761.50</b>	<b>\$5,488.51</b>

### Budget Income/Expense Summary

	July	YTD
Income	\$18,830.62	\$179,637.96
Expense	11,990.33	172,667.39
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$6,840.29	\$6,970.57

## Insect Bites



Although insect stings can be irritating, symptoms usually do not require treatment by a doctor. However, people who are highly

allergic to insect stings may have life threatening symptoms and may require emergency treatment.

### Signs of a Severe Allergic Reaction

- Swelling of the face or mouth
- Difficulty swallowing or speaking
- Chest lightness, wheezing or difficulty breathing
- Dizziness or fainting
- Abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting

### What to Do:

If there are signs of a severe reaction, call for emergency medical care. Give diphenhydramine (Benadryl) while waiting for the ambulance. If you or your child has been previously prescribed injectable epinephrine, it should be given if signs of a severe reaction are present. TIP: Injectable epinephrine is dosed in a single dose syringe. Make sure you know how to work the cartridge BEFORE an emergency occurs.

If there are NOT signs of a severe reaction:

- Remove the person from the area where he or she was stung.
- If the person was stung by a honeybee, wasp, hornet or yellow jacket, and the stinger is visible remove it by gently scraping the skin horizontally with the edge of a credit card or your fingernail.
- Wash the area with soap and water.

- Apply ice or a cool wet cloth to the area to relieve pain and swelling.
- If the area is itchy, apply a paste of baking soda and water, or calamine lotion. (Do not apply calamine to the face or genital area)

### Seek Emergency Medical Care If:

- The person shows symptoms of severe allergic reaction
- The sting is anywhere in the mouth
- The person has a known severe allergy to a stinging insect
- Injectable epinephrine (EpiPen) was used.



### Think Prevention

- Avoid
  - Walking barefoot while on the grass
  - Using scented soaps, perfumes or hair spray
  - Dressing in bright colors or flowery prints
  - Areas where insects nest or congregate
  - Drinking from soda cans
- Make sure that
  - Outside garbage cans have tight-fitting lids
  - There are no stagnant pools of water
  - Food is covered when eating outside

Stay Well!  
—Charlotte

Source: KidsHealth.org

## Congratulations to Charlotte Evans!

Charlotte, our congregational nurse, was recently granted a license by her denomination, the Church of the Nazarene. Here is Charlotte's summary of the process in which she's engaged:

"In the Church of the Nazarene there are two paths for ordination as a minister. The first path is ordination as an elder. Elders generally pastor. The second path is ordination as a deacon in a specialty area (worship (music) children's pastor, compassionate ministries). This is the path I am on. Once I complete all my studies (24 courses in all), I will be ordained as a deacon in compassionate ministries. Before one is ordained they must hold a district license for two years. That is the license I was granted in June. Ordained deacons typically minister directly in their called specialty. Both paths are fully recognized as clergy. I have completed 10 courses (was given credit for some of my past college) and am enrolled with our Bible College to complete the rest of the required courses! My goal is to meet my study requirements so I can be ordained the summer of 2011!"

We offer Charlotte our prayers and support as she continues toward ordination.

### Keep in Your Prayers ...

Jim Boyles, Evelyn Chamberlain, Jessica Ellisor (Teresa Earles' niece), Kaye Gardiner (Midge Rasey's daughter), Irma Hoff, Henrietta Ingram, Eileen Jarrett-Morales, Mariana Kuester (Frank Kuester's mother), Austin Lane, The Lamberts, Marie McLennan, Elise Norris, Melissa Paschal (granddaughter of Margaret Wagoner), Virginia Stricklen, Matthew Wagoner (grandson of Margaret Wagoner), Marie Williams, John David Wilson (Pam Aldridge's cousin in Iraq), All looking for employment



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400 West Radiance Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27403

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## Support the Mission of Elon Homes & Schools for Children

Box Tops, UPCs and grocery items can be a blessing for Elon Homes & Schools for Children. With your help, the agency will receive cash or valuable educational materials through its participation in the General Mills Box Tops for Education program, the Campbell's Labels for Education program and the Harris Teeter Together in Education Program. Your support really will make a difference and will be very much appreciated.

Clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of General Mills products found throughout your local grocery store. Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10¢ to Kennedy Charter Public School. These coupons have an expiration date which must be clipped along with the Box Top symbol.

In 2007, Campbell's began accepting only UPCs (or lids from a limited number of products) from its products. *The company no longer accepts front panel labels.* The UPCs are easier to clip and less expensive to mail. Visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for a list of eligible products and what to save from each, or call 704-369-2510 for a printed list.



If you shop at Harris Teeter Stores, please take the Kennedy Charter Public School account number (5386) with you on your next trip and have the cashier link

your VIC card to the school. This sign up must be done for each school year and can be done at any time. When you purchase Harris Teeter private label items, the grocer contributes a percentage of your purchase dollars to KCPS. You can link online by visiting [www.harristeeter.com](http://www.harristeeter.com) and clicking on "Community," "Together in Education," and "Link to your School."

Please be a friend and link your VIC card to the Kennedy Charter Public School account and deposit your Box Tops, UPCs and lids in the box outside the CUCC Fellowship Hall – or mail them to:

*Elon Homes & Schools for Children  
Attention: Sharon Landis  
1717 Sharon Road West  
Charlotte, NC 28210*