

## Fall 2009

### Supper Study Returns for the Fall

Supper Study programs are held the first and third Wednesdays, unless a speaker's schedule or special event requires a change. All are welcome, but we need firm reservations or cancellations by Tuesday of the week of the program. Cost: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children (covered dish meals free). Childcare is provided.



**September 16: Health Care Reform: What's All The Fuss About?** Robin Lane, a pediatric nurse practitioner and presenter on health care, will bring some clarity to the national debate. Menu: Baked fish, potatoes, salad, fruit, dessert.

**October 7: The Middle East And Islam From The Eyes Of A Muslim** Masoud Awartani, active in local interfaith efforts, and owner of Zaytoon's restaurant, will share his perspective. Menu: Covered Dish.

**October 21: Our Annual Political Forum** - Come meet the candidates, share a meal with your elected leaders. Menu: Lasagna.

**November 4: Postcard From The Environment** - What are the birds, bees and butterflies telling us?

**November 18: A Time To Laugh!** Brush up your routine, find some new (clean) jokes, and be prepared to laugh. All ages are welcome to channel their inner comedian and have a turn at the mike.

### Women's Fellowship Fall Salad Supper

This annual event will take place Monday, September 14, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

- Memorials and Honors will be presented.
- The annual business meeting will be held.
- The Women's Fellowship Yearbook will be distributed.

We look forward to seeing *you all* at the meeting.



### Church School for Children

Regular classes will begin this Sunday. We have a fine group of teachers, and they deserve our thanks: Ages 0-3, Evelyn Blane; Ages 3-5, Fran Ditto; Ages 6-10, Katherine Rowe and Leisa Slensby; and Ages 11-13, Amy Usry. We also have a group of folks who will serve as substitute teachers, and they deserve our thanks as well.



### Invitation

You are invited to the installation of the Rev. Kristin Gerner Vaughn, new pastor of Brick Reformed Church in Burlington, on Sunday, September 13 at 5:00 pm. The Brick Church Women will host a reception to be held in the fellowship hall immediately following the service. The church is located at 3699 Brick Church Road in Burlington.



**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 11  
Publication: Wednesday, Sep. 16

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

#### September 6, 2009

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23  
Psalm 125  
James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17  
Mark 7:24-37

#### September 13, 2009

Proverbs 1:20-33  
Psalm 19  
James 3:1-12  
Mark 8:27-38



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**400 West Radiance Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
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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 Olayiwola**  
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

# A 40-Day Spiritual Journey



I have officially applied for an extension to summer but so far, no response. I am in no way ready to say goodbye to real

honest-to-God tomatoes, baseball games, going for a walk without putting on layers of clothes, having a little more family time, an excuse for eating ice cream, and the list goes on.

Oh, I know. Autumn will bring its own charms, but I am not ready to welcome them yet. September alone brings too much busyness.

Considering how very scheduled life is about to become for many of us, I want to extend an invitation for you to join me in a unique spiritual endeavor for the coming weeks.

As you know, our deacons have been in the process of organizing their work into ministry teams – you will see more about the specific teams in the coming weeks. One of these is already at work, the “Spiritual Connections” ministry team. Their goal is to enhance the spiritual well-being of our congregation by offering a variety of opportunities and resources for all. There will be several small groups starting down the road, along with other ideas in the works.

Which brings me to this unique spiritual endeavor. There are folks who long for the chance to engage in a structured, guided spiritual growth effort but who cannot take part in a small group, due to time constraints or who simply aren't comfortable in that setting. And others who may be interested in a daily time of prayer, experienced largely on their own but knowing that others are similarly engaged.

With all that in mind, I invite you to join me for a forty-day journey. From September 28<sup>th</sup> until November 13<sup>th</sup>, all who take part will make a commitment to a daily, very brief reading, time for silent meditation, reflecting in a journal, and prayer. We will use an outstanding new resource, an Augsburg Press series which uses the writings of engaging authors as a foundation for daily prayer. The particular journey we will follow makes use of the marvelous writing of Kathleen Norris (*40-Day Journey with Kathleen Norris*). She is the bestselling author of *Dakota*, *The Cloister Walk*, and *Amazing Grace*. She will, in effect, serve as our guide as we daily consider such themes as hope, grief, faith, community, love and peace in personal and uplifting ways.

While participants will follow the book on their own, we will come together twice during the forty days, once about half-way through, and again at the conclusion.

Please let me know by September 14<sup>th</sup> if you are interested so that we can order enough books in time. Anyone can take part; no prior experience necessary!

I hope you will join me on the journey. While we may not extend the calmer days of summer or radically change the fast pace of daily life, we can, together, focus our minds and hearts and spirits in a way that offers deeper awareness, greater peace, a renewed spiritual connection to the Spirit at work in us all.

—Julie Peeples



**Education Notes**

# Safe Church, Sound System, Church Women United



In the process of setting up classes and teachers for this year, we are conducting background checks on everyone who works with our children. This is a service of The Southern Conference and The UCC Insurance Board (our provider), helping churches to see that good and safe practices are followed.

Later this fall we will have a training event to help us further understand good interactions between adults and children, and among children. There is nothing wrong, as far as we know. This process is to insure that our church remains a safe place. —Paul Davis



## All Church Retreat

We have just a couple places available for our retreat on September 25-27. Forms are outside Paul's office. We said there was a deadline, and there was. But we still have some room. The overall topic will be prayer. Come pray with us in the mountains!

### Keep in Your Prayers ...

Jim Boyles, Evelyn Chamberlain, Carleen Dix, the Dollyhigh Family, Jessica Ellisor (Teresa Earles' niece), Kaye Gardiner (Midge Rasey's daughter), Irma Hoff, Eileen Jarrett-Morales, Mariana Kuester (Frank Kuester's mother), Austin Lane, The Lamberts, Marie McLennan, Carly Mozgai, Elise Norris, Edna Olayiwola, Melissa Paschal and Matthew Wagoner (grandchildren of Margaret Wagoner), Lori Welch, Marie Williams, John David Wilson (Pam Aldridge's cousin in Iraq), All looking for employment

## Sound System Update

Since the Pastor's Unfortunate Birthday Surprise incident, the sound system has been behaving better. This past Sunday, our installer and engineer was with us for worship, made some more adjustments, and we believe this resulted in some improvement. That said, we also found some acoustical quirks in the Sanctuary, odd and interesting echos — places where the sound bounces in fascinating ways while just a few feet away the bounce is not noticed.

Thank you for all your advice, and we will continue to welcome your thoughts. By the way, we do have a hearing assist system, with small battery packs and tiny earphones, which seems to work well. If you would like to give this system a try, an usher can assist you.



## Seeking Shalom

Church Women United's program year will begin on Friday, September 18th, at Trinity AME Zion Church, 631 E. Florida Street, Greensboro.

"Seeking Shalom" is the theme chosen for this meeting which will focus on human rights. As a worldwide ecumenical organization, Church Women United has always promoted making basic human rights equally available to all persons — regardless of race, culture, nationality or religion.

This gathering of women from more than thirty-five Greensboro congregations will begin at 10:00 am. After registration and refreshments, the program will follow at 10:30 am. There is no need to make a reservation, as this meeting does not include lunch.

If you have questions or need transportation, please contact Eileen Stirling, 852-0170.

## 2009 Senior Health Fair

Tuesday, September 15  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Central Library, 219 N. Church St.

**FREE: Glucose & Cholesterol Screening • Blood Pressure Check • Hearing Check • Body Mass Index • Door Prizes & More!**

Connect with community resources and learn about organizations that can help you achieve an independent and a healthy lifestyle.



## CUCC Business

### Volunteers

#### September 6

Lay Reader: Brenda Schluenes  
Toddler Nursery: S. Harper & S. Frye  
Coffee Hour: B. & H. Ashworth

#### September 13

Lay Reader: Marjorie Liles  
Toddler Nursery: L. Magyar & S. Lane  
Coffee Hour: B. Rice

### Ushers

B. & M. Mackenzie, S. Hall, K. Schluenes



### Financial Reports

Weekly Income	08/16/09	08/23/09
Pledged Offering	\$3,569.16	\$2,679.00
Unpledged Offering	477.55	344.00
Use of Church	137.50	157.50
BRAG Deposits	---	162.50
Work Trip	---	50.00
Sales Tax Refund	---	287.91
Pastor's Disc. Fund	---	320.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,184.21</b>	<b>\$4,001.53</b>

### Budget Income/Expense Summary

Data not available at the time of publication.



# Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

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## Congregational Nurse Notes

# Exciting Things Are Happening! Mark Your Calendars!



**October 18,  
Noon-2:00 pm:  
Our Second Annual Health Fair & Flu Clinic -**  
New events!

Great information!  
Great fellowship!

Great food! The flu shot clinic is for the seasonal flu and will be managed by Maxim Health Care (same as last year).

**November 6-7: City-Wide Dental Clinic!** Moses Cone Congregational Nurse Program is partnering with this event to bring dental care to those without insurance and in need. Teeth cleaning, fillings and minor repairs will be provided. There are income guidelines to receive this service.

**Our church is being asked to supply at least two volunteers!**

There is a job for everyone. We need volunteers for six hour shifts both Friday and Saturday. If you are available please let me know (549-8814). This is a tremendous service to the community!

**Early November: H1N1 Vaccine -**

Our church will be one of the Greensboro sites for the H1N1 vaccine. The vaccine will be given in two doses, each a month apart. **I will need two to four volunteers for these events.**

**Remember: Frequent hand washing is the number defense against disease!** We have hand washing gel outside each of the entrances of the building, in addition

to other locations throughout the church. Gel before and as you are leaving the building and other times when necessary.

**The proper way to use the gel:**

Place about a quarter size in the palm of your hand. Using friction, rub the gel over the entire hand, getting in between the finger and nail area. Rub until gel has evaporated and your hands are dry. Use soap and water when hands are visibly soiled and after bathroom use. Remember to wash hands using friction, all over, including in between fingers and the nail area. Wash for 15 seconds (or sing the birthday song twice!)

Stay Healthy!  
—Charlotte