

Small Group Opportunity

The Bible . . . What's Up With That?

This summer, we invite you to take a break from relaxing and join us for a small group. We will meet at Julie and Paul's house, beginning Wednesday, June 16th, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We will continue to meet each Wednesday through July 14. The group will be led by Barbara Rice, along with Julie and Paul.

The topic will be . . . well, we are not sure what to call it. It will be a five-week introduction to the Bible, specifically for people who find the topic intimidating or who have bruises from a previous Bible Study. The title will not use the terms "Idiot's" or "Dummy's" or "Guide" — or anything like that. No weapons allowed, beyond a rapier wit, and no loud voices. And participants, we invite you to give us your questions — what would you like us to cover in our discussions?

So, whatever we title this group (maybe "Basic Bible Understandings"), we can say this: we'll talk, and have a snack, and listen to one another, and have fun. Space is limited; call or e-mail the office to sign up.



Will Rowe, our Talent Show Emcee.

Church Picnic: June 13th

We will gather at 1:00 pm in Country Park at the large picnic shelter closest to the Natural Science Center. Bring food to share, we'll provide everything else. Join us! *Sponsored by The Deacons and Christian Education Boards.*



Church Work Day:

Saturday, May 29, 9-12

No tools needed!



Women's Fellowship Salad

Supper: Monday, June 7

Come to the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm and enjoy fellowship and a message from Katharine Martin. We will have our traditional "Strengthen the Church" offering. All women are invited.



Damian Alvarez performing on Luna Sticks.



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. For details, check out our Visitor Page at www.congregationalucc.com.

CUCC is on Facebook!

Check us out at the following site: www.tinyurl.com/CUCCFacebook.

Our Next Newsletter

Deadline: Friday, June 18
Publication: Wednesday, June 23

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

May 30, 2010

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31, Psalm 8,
Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15

June 6, 2010

1 Kings 17:8-24, Psalm 146 or Psalm 30,
Galatians 1:11-24, Luke 7:11-17

June 13, 2010

1 Kings 21:1-21a, Psalm 5:1-8,
Galatians 2:15-21, Luke 7:36-8:3

June 20, 2010

1 Kings 19:1-15a, Psalm 42 and 43,
Galatians 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39



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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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10:00-11:00 am
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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 . . .

Congregational News is published by
Congregational United Church of Christ,
Greensboro, North Carolina

From the Pastor

Spirit Among Us



“God can certainly be found any place, but it is true that, when we gather in sacred places with people who are our spiritual family, there

is a sacred wind that often blows through. I feel sorry for those who miss that gentle, divine caress.”

—The Rev. Michael Piazza, Pastor, Cathedral of Hope UCC, Dallas, TX

The wind of the Spirit moved among us this past Pentecost Sunday as members and visitors alike shared stories of their “Spirit Sightings” — where they have witnessed the Holy Spirit at work in and around them. The Spirit danced among us as we celebrated the varied ways that God is at work in our midst (and some of us shared our shoes!!). The Spirit danced as we shared a great meal and enjoyed the amazing talents of all ages in our Talent Show. And our mission trip to New Orleans received great support through the Silent Auction!

Thanks for that wonderful, blessed sharing, and thanks for being such a gracious and gifted spiritual family.

— Julie Peeples



Congregational to Welcome James Kidd In Worship

On Sunday, May 30th, we will welcome the Rev. Dr. James Kidd to our pulpit. Dr. Kidd is a retired UCC minister who served as pastor of Asylum Hill UCC in Hartford, Ct., and Wellington Avenue UCC in Chicago, and is a highly-respected preacher and writer. Recipient of numerous Human Relations awards and author of numerous articles, Dr. Kidd and his wife, Joann, are long-

time friends of Karl and Brenda Schleunes and Connie Usry. During worship, we will also celebrate the baptism of the Schleunes' grandson, Nathaniel.



So What Are You Reading This Summer????

One of the frequent topics of conversation in our hallways and at Coffee Hour is about the search for good reads. With summer upon us, the interest increases. So if you have found some good books — novels, nonfiction, children's books – why not share your suggestions with your church family? We'll have a readers' corner in upcoming newsletters with any suggestions received. Please let us know for which age group your suggestions are appropriate.



Staff Notes

Judy Page will be out of the office for a few weeks, recuperating from surgery. Come back well, Judy!



Keep in Your Prayers ...

In order to protect the privacy of the individuals on our Prayer List, this information is not available in the online version of our newsletter.

Education Notes

Work Trip, Sunday School/Youth Group, Graduates



This past Sunday was a great day of fund-raising for the Summer Work Trip. Nearly 100 people came to the luncheon,

many dozens of people bid on the 47 items in the Silent Auction, and we were entertained by our talented performers. Thus far, our net for the day was \$3,000. A few people still need to pay, and some people asked how they can donate toward the trip — checks can be made to CUCC, and marked “Work Trip.”

Thanks to our performers, our cooks, our set-up and clean-up crew, and to all of you who came!

If you would like to join us this summer, our dates are August 1-8. Be in touch with me.

—Paul Davis



Terri Vaughn with Silent Auction bids.

Sunday School and Youth Group

Classes for our children, the Smith Class, and the Youth Group will have their final meetings this weekend. They will take the summer off, and resume the end of August.

Thanks to Katherine Rowe, Fran Ditto, Leisa Slensby, Amy Usry, Clif Karnes, Beth Hoagland, and Karen Ritter, for their dedicated service! And thanks to Sherrill Hall, teacher of the Jordan-Wisseman Class.



Congratulations to Our Graduates!

In addition to those previously mentioned . . .

- Danny Allen will graduate as Valedictorian from Western Guilford High School and will attend the Honors Program at UNC-Chapel Hill, major undecided.
- Alejandro Jarrett-Morales will graduate from Grimsley High School.
- Emily Townsend Luisana, daughter of Katrina and Gerald Townsend of Raleigh, has graduated from N.C. State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Emily is the granddaughter of Sterling and Barbara Whitener.
- Andrew Morelli, grandson of Connie Usry and nephew of Amy Usry, has received his Fire Fighting Certification.
- Richard E. Stafford, grandson of Austin Lane, will graduate from New Garden Friends Upper School. He plans to attend UNC-Asheville in the fall.
- Cassie Usry, granddaughter of Connie and niece of Amy, will graduate with honors from Weaver Academy. She will attend UNC-Chapel Hill on a full scholarship.

More Memories from Sunday



Grace Barber and her son, Bo Barbot, shared a song.



Beth Mulberry and Cathy Wheeler worked on the meal.



Our Choir Directors, Jimmy and Edna, brought down the house with their tender rendition of, "I'll Be There."

A Special Invitation, Women's Quadrennial Assembly

Dear Churches and Ministers of the Western North Carolina Association,

You are invited to a celebration on Sunday, June 27th, honoring the ministry of the Rev. Larry Walser, Associate Conference Minister for the Western NC Association, and the services of Mrs. Libby Parker, Western NC Association Secretary.

This celebration will be held at First United Church of Christ, 207 West Horah Street, Salisbury, NC from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The event is being sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Western North Carolina Association, with help from the people at First UCC, Salisbury.

The Rev. Larry Walser will be retiring as our area minister on June 30th. Church members and ministers will gather to thank Larry for his ministry among us and extend best wishes to he and his wife, Sandy, as they enter their retirement together.

We will also recognize and thank Mrs. Libby Parker for her faithful service to the Western North Carolina Association as our Office Secretary. We are grateful for the friendly, dependable service she has provided to us throughout Larry's ministry as our Associate Conference Minister.

I hope many from your church will attend to express thanks to Larry and Libby.

*Jamie Fonville, President
Western NC Association
Board of Directors*



Disciples of Christ Women's Quadrennial Assembly To Meet in Greensboro

The UCC and the Disciples of Christ are partners in Global Ministries and work closely in other areas

as well. The Disciples Women will be holding their national gathering, the Quadrennial Assembly, in Greensboro from June 23-27 at the Koury Convention Center. For information about the event and to register for any of the programs, go to www.quadrennial.org.

In addition, there will be a pre-event gathering of 15-20 international women, and Rev. Peeples has been working with Rev. Lee Hull Moses from First Christian to plan their visit. Volunteers are needed to help June 21-23 during their visit. If you would like to help with a Monday evening cookout at First Christian, host several women for a supper in your home Tuesday evening, or provide some breakfast food one morning, please let Julie know. This will be a wonderful opportunity to welcome women from all over the world, and to work in partnership with our friends from First Christian and other Disciples churches in Greensboro!



Thanks for Your Support!

Dear Friends of GUM,

You are so appreciated for what you do to help Greensboro Urban Ministry in its fight against hunger in our community. Words cannot express our gratitude for your food donations of 231 pounds! We are grateful for so many caring individuals in our community who remember the needy and those down on their luck, and want you to know that donations such as yours are so important in our efforts to help 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 in the community such as you, the needs are met. Again, thank you for such a heart-warming response.

—Betty F. Brown



CUCC Business

Volunteers

May 30

Lay Reader: Ralph Wenger
Nursery: A. & R. Alexander
Coffee Hour: A. Roberts & M. Rueppell

June 6

Lay Reader: Nancy Prairie
Nursery: B. Fleischer & L. Slensby
Coffee Hour: K. Larson & I. Whitfield

June 13

Lay Reader: Donny Carpenter
Nursery: K. Joseph & M. Kennedy
Coffee Hour: B. Williams & M. B. Boone

June 20

Lay Reader: TBA
Nursery: J. Rowe & N. Prairie
Coffee Hour: A. Buffington & F. Ditto

June Ushers

Betty & Mac Mackenzie,
Sherrill Hall, Karl Schleunes



Financial Reports

Weekly Income	05/09/10	05/16/10
Pledged Offering	\$3,745.00	\$3,422.00
Unpledged Offering	611.00	635.00
Use of Church	1,070.00	210.00
Church Meals	91.00	65.00
Work Trip	300.00	---
Love Offering	---	80.00
Haiti Relief	---	6.43
Williams Bequest	---	5,000.00
Total	\$5,817.00	\$9,418.43

Budget Income/Expense Summary

	5/1-23/10	YTD
Income	\$18,936.58	\$125,758.69
Expense	22,029.68	145,743.06
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$3,093.10)	(\$19,984.37)

Dealing With Grief and Loss



Overview

Grief is a reaction to a major loss. It is most often an unhappy and painful emotion. It is an emotion that can affect all aspects of one's life. Some people have difficulty moving beyond their grief and can experience troubling symptoms that affect their daily lives.

Some people have difficulty moving beyond their grief and can experience troubling symptoms that affect their daily lives.

Symptoms

There can be five stages of grief. These reactions might not occur in a specific order and can occur together. Not everyone experiences all of these emotions.

- Denial, disbelief, numbness
- Anger, blaming others, blaming God
- Bargaining (example: If God heals my mother of cancer, I will go to church every Sunday.)
- Depressed mood: sadness and crying
- Acceptance: coming to terms with the loss

People who are grieving may have crying spells, some trouble sleeping, and lack of productivity at work. They may distance themselves from others, pulling away from close relationships.

Treatment

Family and friends can offer emotional support during the grieving process. Sometimes outside factors can affect the normal grieving process and people might need help from:

- Clergy
- Mental health specialist
- Self-help groups
- Social workers
- Congregational nurse
- Hospice groups

The acute phase of grief usually lasts up to two months. Some milder symptoms may last for a year

or longer. Psychological and/or spiritual counseling may help a person who is unable to face the loss or who has depression with grieving.

Causes

Grief can be triggered by the death of a loved one. People also can experience grief if they have an illness for which there is no cure, or a chronic condition that affects quality of life. The end of a significant relationship may also cause a grieving process. A loss of any kind can result in grief.

Everyone feels grief in their own way. However, there are certain stages to the process of mourning. It starts with recognizing a loss and continues until a person eventually accepts that loss. People's responses to grief will be different, depending on the circumstances of the death or loss.



Coping with Loss

- Give yourself permission to grieve. Understand everyone is different when dealing with grief and can go through the stages at different times and intensity.
- Understand that many people will go through the stages in a "back" and "forth" motion. One might experience a level of acceptance one day and then experience intense anger the next.
- Accept the reality of the loss. Begin working towards a "new normal".
- Grief is hard! Seek out support and allow others to "be there" for you!

- Recognize grief is a significant emotional response and can affect energy levels and physical responses.

Understand grief work is exactly that — WORK! The working through of grief is referred to as the "grief process." Understanding this can be helpful in giving yourself or others permission to have the time it takes to heal.

Stay Healthy!
—Charlotte



Blood Drive Results

Our blood drive on Tuesday, May 18th, was a very enjoyable experience. Donors are a jolly group! Red Cross was pleased with the turnout and results: 31 presenting and 26 productive units. It was heartening to see several of our new members coming to donate. Thanks to all.

—Bill Smith

Members & Friends Who Donated:

Ken Aldridge	Lynn Magyar
Mike Allen	Mark Matthews
Harold Ashworth	Barbara Musser
Diane Brewer	John Neufeld
James Bowles	Karol Neufeld
Libby Bowles	Rod North
Laura Coffee	Mike Norwood
Alice Franks	Cameron Paschall
Clif Karnes	Barbara Rice
Sharon Karnes	Ann Roberts
Julie Kraus	Leisa Slensby
Susan Lane	Richard Smith
Allison Langley	Robert Whitener
Brucie Lee	Joe Woodard
Dale Lengcy	Bets Woodard

The following are VIP Donors who have committed to a certain number of donations per year. Aspire to be on this list, too!

Diane Brewer	Kate Larson
Teresa Earles	David Senkus
Paul Davis	Randy Yardley
Clyde Humphrey	



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

May 26, 2010

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Gratitude for Faithful Giving!

As many prepare for summer travel, don't forget that our congregation depends on the financial support of all us year-round to keep our ministry running smoothly! Even in these tough times, our church has managed to stay faithful in its giving, which is wonderful. Summer often means a dip in giving, even though the bills continue to come in! So please, remember your commitment. Thanks!!



UCC On-Line Devotional Available

The Still Speaking Devotional is a wonderful daily, on-line devotional written by UCC members that anyone can subscribe to — and it's free!

You can sign up to receive the devotional each day via e-mail by going to the UCC website, www.ucc.org. The Still Speaking Devotional is often featured on the opening page, but if not, click on "Church Stuff" and you'll see it there.



Stillspeaking Daily Devotional

June Birthdays

- 3 Midge Rasey
- 3 Cheryl Smith
- 3 Meghan Davis
- 4 Erin Shroyer
- 4 Charles Chamberlain
- 5 Emily Thomas
- 6 Stephen Cromartie
- 7 Margery Veatch
- 8 Ed Driver
- 9 John Taylor
- 10 Lindsay Gibbs
- 10 Jim Boyles
- 11 Lee Huggins
- 13 David Rice
- 13 Bailey Covington
- 15 Eli Wang
- 15 Jeff Shroyer
- 15 Addie Bardolph
- 17 Lori Welch
- 20 Rosemarie Miller
- 20 Jackie Patterson
- 23 Jaime Kent
- 27 Sterling Whitener
- 29 Chip Simpson
- 30 Betty Mackenzie
- 30 David Miller