

Addressing the Needs of Our Community

The Next Step (In Your Career Path)

Are you concerned about job loss? Do you feel that you would benefit from practical job-seeking knowledge in a faith-based group that understands your situation? Then let CUCC help you turn the corner and take *The Next Step* in your career path. Starting the week of August 15, we will offer *The Next Step*, a program created for faith organizations by a premier Greensboro career firm, as ongoing 90-minute meetings, once a week for ten weeks (with an optional two-week extension),.

The Next Step is a down-to-earth approach that includes information, mentoring and reference materials on every aspect of the job-seeking process, including identifying your strengths and aptitudes, preparing resumes and cover letters, interviewing and networking. Meetings will take place in a confidential, respectful setting with an emphasis on making the most of your God-given abilities and

calling upon God to assist you in turning troubled times into an opportunity.

The Next Step at CUCC is open to everyone who is involved or may be involved in job-seeking – you, your neighbor, your sister, your parent or child, a friend, Christian, Jew, Muslim, whatever. (Other *Next Step* programs are being planned in other faith-based organizations; if CUCC is not just right for a particular person, we will assist you in finding a group that is.)

If you or someone you know is interested in this program, please e-mail co-facilitator and CUCC member Susan Seawolf Hayes (shayes27313@yahoo.com), or the CUCC office (office@congregationalucc.com). Include name, e-mail address, telephone number, and whether you would prefer to meet (1) on a weekday during the day, (2) on a weekday, early evening or (3) Sunday afternoon.

Summer Small Group Study



The not so small group that met at Julie and Paul's house in June and July.



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, August 6
Publication: Wednesday, August 11

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

July 18, 2010

Amos 8:1-12, Psalm 52, Colossians 1:15-28, Luke 10:38-42

July 25, 2010

Hosea 1:2-10, Psalm 85, Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19), Luke 11:1-13

August 1, 2010

Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, 43, Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

August 8, 2010

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Ps. 50:1-8, 22-23, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40



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 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: 4th 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

Summer Updates



Hot enough for you??? I hope you are all finding ways to stay cool these sultry summer days. I am one of those few, odd people

who actually like this weather. Summer has always been my favorite time of year, and the heat seldom bothers me. The slower pace, the taste of real tomatoes, the sight of huge golden sunflowers, plenty of ice cream — I'm a happy camper.

This summer has brought some wonderful surprises. Our Bible Study ends this week after a five-week run; we weren't sure anyone would sign up for a summer study, but with participation ranging from 15 to 22 each week, we've been overjoyed! And the great spirit of the group has made it fun to plow through some of the mysteries and complexities of the Bible.

While the choir is on hiatus for the summer, good music certainly isn't! Every Sunday we are being blessed with a wide variety of solos, duets, and quartets by our talented members. So come and join us when you are in town, and bring a friend.

Another wonderful surprise is the number of visitors we've been welcoming in worship lately. Some are passing through while visiting family and friends, some are new to the area, some have heard about us and are checking us out. Whatever their reason for being present on a Sunday morning, be sure to extend a warm CUCC welcome to all of these folks and invite them back.

Summer is always a time for planning, so if you'd like to weigh in with some ideas, this is a good time. Given the high level of participation in small groups this past year we'll certainly be offering

more opportunities along those lines. So if there is a small group focus or study you would be especially interested in, let me know.

Finally, retreat! No, I don't mean run away, I mean our church retreat in Blowing Rock! We want you there! See this newsletter for more details; better yet, talk to some of us who've been there to get a sense of what it's all about. And make your reservations soon.

Stay cool. Eat more tomatoes and a little ice cream. Hope to see you on Sunday. —Julie Peeples



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

Middle Youth Group, All-Church Retreat and More



This past academic year the church had a Middle Youth Group, for rising 5th graders through rising 8th graders.

The group met once a month, and some parents are interested in the Middle Youth Group meeting more often, probably on a weekday evening, perhaps on a weekly basis. Sometime in the new few weeks we will have a meeting of parents and kids, to talk about how we can "grow this group." Interested or have thoughts? Be in touch with Nancy Prairie, Katherine Rowe, Becky Fleischer, or me. —Paul Davis



All-Church Retreat at Blowing Rock!

Our All-Church Retreat is scheduled for October 1-3. The cost this year is \$75 per adult and \$25 per child age 5-18. Children under age 5 are free! If you register before July 28, adults will receive a \$10 discount! Registration forms are outside Paul's office. The retreat is always a wonderful time to be with friends and to make new friends. Join us!



Work Trip Update

Our number now stands at fourteen (with nearly as many offering regrets they cannot come this year). This year's lucky few are: Nancy Bennett, Janie Burley, Gayle Currie, Paul Davis, Teresa Earles, Lena Eyring, Jane Ford, Nancy Glenz, Sankey Moore-Painter, Barbara Rice, Karen Ritter, Terri Vaughn, Cathy Wheeler, and Bob Williams.

The group will leave at 7:00 am on Sunday, August 1, and will return the evening of August 8. In the past couple years the group has sent home, via e-mail, reports and pictures, and they hope to do so again this year. In an upcoming E-News they will have a link to their trip. Keep this intrepid group, and the people in the New Orleans area, in your prayers.



Training and Background Checks

Last summer the Board of Christian Education had background checks performed on Sunday School teachers, youth group leaders, our Nursery Attendant, and Paul. There were no problems or issues, either before or after the checks, thankfully! We had them done at the strong suggestion of our insurance carrier, The United Church of Christ Insurance Board, as part of their on-going efforts to help churches provide a safe space for all people, children included, and as part of their on-going efforts to reduce our church's exposure to risk.

This summer the CE Board will provide training and background checks for our Nursery Volunteers, again in conjunction with

the UCC Insurance Board. Over the next few weeks, all volunteers will be contacted regarding the background check (it is done by a organization contracted by the UCC IB), and to offer the training. Again, there are no issues. We just want to do our part to keep CUCC a wonderful place for all people!



Summer Reading

The following books have been recommended by members and friends.

Fiction

The Help, by Kathryn Stockett
Let the Great World Spin, by Colum McCann

Nonfiction

An Altar in the World, by Barbara Brown Taylor

Poetry

Evidence, Poems by Mary Oliver



Left: Julie baptizing Savannah, daughter of Jerome and Megan Babor, on July 11. Above: Savannah was much happier after her baptism just walking around on her own. (Photos by Elizabeth Rowe.)

What a Change We Made!

The Change for Change collection for April and May was donated to Street Watch, a group that helps meet the needs of the homeless in Greensboro. We collected a total of \$525.00!!! The money was used to help purchase tents for eight people who had no shelter. You truly made a huge change for the better in their lives with your contributions.

The June and July collection will be donated to Faith Action International, a group that works with immigrants and refugees here in Greensboro. They help them with their daily needs as well as helping them find work and housing. As a refugee the government gives them \$700 to get established. As you can imagine, this doesn't even begin to make a dent in the needs that one who is fleeing horrible situations, usually with only the clothes on their back. It is usually at that point that they go to Faith Action to look for help.

We had a wonderful response last week bringing our current total to \$125. We are hoping to raise \$350-\$400. So keep it up! Clean out those cars, search the washer, under the couch cushions and everywhere in between, and make a change!



A Note of Appreciation

Dear CUCC Friends,

Hello from Indiana! Am settling in and trying to find a job. Planted flower beds and some tomatos and peppers this past weekend. Hope you all are well, miss your friendly faces already. I wanted to thank you for the parting gift, it helped bunches with our "nesting"! Thanks again, will keep in touch!
—Evelyn Blane



Organ Repairs Needed

The Church Council has approved a proposal to do some cleaning and make general repairs on our organ. The work will be done this summer and fall, and will involve sending out some of the ranks (the pipes of a particular stop) to be repaired and re-voiced. The work could cost up to \$70,000 over the next couple years, with funds coming from earnings on our main Endowment Fund and the Fran Johnson Fund. Thankfully, several individuals have graciously pledged over half this amount, so the church will get \$70,000 of repairs for less than half that cost! If you are interested in helping sponsor repair and maintenance to our pipe organ, be in touch with our Financial Secretary, Pam Aldridge.



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!!

What a Loving Congregation!

Dear Members & Friends of CUCC,

Thank you all so much for the care and concern you expressed following my recent surgery. I feel so blessed to serve such a loving community. Your prayers, cards, phone calls, and meals uplifted me throughout my recovery. Although the process has been slower than expected, I *am* healing and my energy is finally returning. I appreciate your patience in allowing me the time I need to become whole again.

Your willingness to serve as God's hands in the lives of those in need is an inspiration! —Judy Page



CUCC Business

Volunteers

July 18

Lay Reader: Judy Groves
Nursery: L. Magyar and G. Allen
Coffee Hour: Becky & Jo Fleischer

July 25

Lay Reader: Kate Larson
Nursery: A. and R. Alexander
Coffee Hour: Marjorie Lilies

Ushers

Joann Myrick, Sticky Burch, Clyde Humphrey, Mike Dorko



Financial Reports

Weekly Income	07/04/1007/11/10	
Pledged Offering	\$6,154.00	\$3,253.00
Unpledged Offering	981.00	273.00
Use of Church	537.50	140.00
Baseball Game	196.00	---
Work Trip	236.00	---
Clergy Soc. Sec. Offset	---	2,500.00
Total	\$8,104.50	\$6166.00

Budget Income/Expense Summary

	June	YTD
Income	\$25,246.85	\$157,404.39
Expense	\$30,875.52	\$178,949.17
Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$5,628.67)	(\$21,544.78)

The Doctor Visit



How many times have you left your doctor's office thinking, "I cannot believe I forgot to ask him or her _____?" Or

said to yourself, "What did he mean when he told me _____?"



The best way to avoid the communication pitfalls with your health care provider is to prepare yourself before the visit. *Ask Me 3* is a patient education program assisting people in better communication with their health care providers. This program is based on three questions that everyone should have answered before they leave the office or place of care.

1. What is my main problem?
2. What do I need to do?
3. Why is it important for me to do this?

Your health care provider wants you to clearly understand what is being told to you. The outcome of your treatment depends on your understanding about what is being said and what is being prescribed. Your health care provider wants you to know:

- All you can about your condition.
- Why this is important for your health.
- Steps to take to keep your condition under control.

Tips for clear health communication:

- Ask the 3 questions.
- Bring a friend or family member to help you at your doctor's visits.

- Bring a list of all medications (including over the counter and herbal medications) to every visit.
- Ask your pharmacist for help when you have questions about your medications.

I encourage you to stop by the "Nurse's Station" in the fellowship hall for more information about this important topic!

Stay well,
Charlotte

References: www.askme3.org



Barnabas Network Furniture Drive

The Barnabas Network is a non-profit organization that, through a collaborative effort of diverse faith communities and social agencies, offers systemic encouragement including basic home furnishings for families and individuals who are moving from homelessness, recovering from a major setback, fleeing domestic violence, or living with incomes that cannot cover basic needs.

They are always in need of gently used furniture and house wares especially:

- Mattresses and box springs — especially twins (no stains or rips)
- Small dining/kitchen tables and chairs
- Coffee/end tables and night stands
- Bed frames
- Dressers
- Working lamps
- Pots and pans
- Sleeper sofas

The Barnabas Network is holding Saturday furniture drives



throughout the summer at the following locations:

July 17: First Presbyterian Church, 617 N. Elm Street

July 24: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3906 W. Friendly Ave.

Aug. 7: Westminster Presbyterian Church (*see address above*)

Aug. 14: First Lutheran Church, 3600 W. Friendly Avenue

Aug. 21: First Presbyterian Church, (*see address above*)

Aug. 22: Temple Emanuel, 1129 Jefferson Road

Aug. 28: Westminster Presbyterian Church (*see address above*)

Sep. 11: First Lutheran Church, (*see address above*)

Sep. 18: First Presbyterian Church, (*see address above*)

If you have questions, contact Erin Stratford at 336-370-4002 or estratford@thebarnabasnetwork.org.



Jimmy Buchanan directing our Children's Choir, with "Miss O" providing accompaniment.



Congregational
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

July 14, 2010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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PERMIT NO. 44

July Birthdays

- 2 Maxine Pruett
- 2 Brad Simpson
- 2 Jon Michael Aldridge
- 3 Katy Swofford
- 4 Trevor Heil
- 4 Brandye Peterson
- 6 Ken Aldridge
- 6 Anne Cary
- 14 Charles Hertlein
- 16 John Kernodle
- 16 Roger Veatch
- 16 Dan Kent
- 17 Clyde Humphrey
- 18 Barbara Hollifield
- 18 Hannah Davis
- 18 Bonnie Kuester
- 20 Flora Taylor
- 21 Mike Aiken
- 26 Stan Swofford
- 26 Patricia Black
- 27 Amber Alexander
- 27 Catherine Aiken
- 31 Paul Davis

Air Conditioning at Congregational UCC - Part IV

Still hot as . . . But improvements have been made! One of our four main compressors was replaced, controls have been adjusted, air ducts in the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall have been cleaned and sealed (so more cool air comes to the right place), and we are doing much better keeping the doors closed! So we've made strategic upgrades to our almost fifty-year old cooling system, to improve our comfort and to reduce our energy consumption. Thanks for your understanding!



August Birthdays

- 1 Bill Smith
- 1 Rebecca Moore-Painter
- 1 Jean Hedrick Clendenin
- 2 Julie Peeples
- 7 Paula Harder
- 7 Peg Stephenson
- 8 Mark Matthews
- 11 Chip Prairie
- 12 Alexis Brown
- 14 Kathryn Taylor
- 17 Margaret Caviness
- 18 Rosa Williamson
- 18 Frank Kuester
- 23 Brenda Langston
- 24 Brenda Schleunes
- 25 Svea Anderson
- 26 Anna Miller
- 29 Regina Hayes
- 30 Dot Darnell
- 31 Michelle Naquin
- 31 Deborah Humphrey