

Sharing Our Blessings

CUCC News: Special Mid-Month Edition

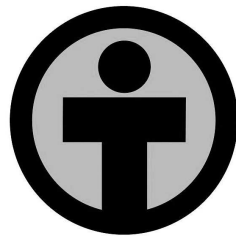
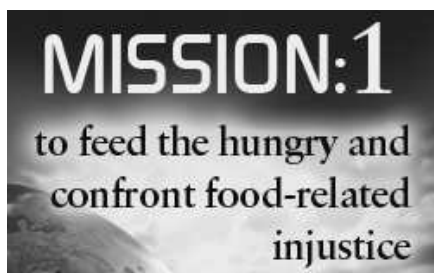
This fall we will have two similar opportunities to give time and money for specific causes: **Mission:1** and **Church World Service (CWS)**. And we will have the opportunity to consider what we will give to our church in 2012.

Mission:1 is our denomination's special emphasis to raise awareness concerning hunger, both in our nation and around the world, and to provide assistance to the hungry. Our church's goal is to raise \$11 per person, 11 pounds of food per person, and 1 advocacy letter per person. We'll collect all this beginning this Sunday (October 23), and continue the following Sunday (October 30).

What items should you bring? Well, checks can be made out to CUCC, and marked "Mission:1." Cash is fine as well. Food should be canned or boxed, nothing perishable. Proteins are great, fruits and vegetables are fine. Bring in what you would typically buy at the store. All the food will go to local food banks.



Bring your items to the Sanctuary, and when you do, you'll receive a blue bracelet, and we hope you will wear it for the next couple weeks, at least to church!



Church World Service

Our church will partner with **Church World Service (CWS)** for the next 8-10 months. CWS of Greensboro offers its own services through staff and volunteers. This means they are responsible for the resettlement of fifty refugee families a year (and they provide services for families for 3-4 years). From the welcome at the airport to the food in the cupboard and the beds they sleep on, to schooling and jobs and paying taxes, CWS offers assistance.

Our church will be asked to provide some money, which will come from our OCWM Local Initiative funds, and we will be asked to give CWS 1000 volunteer hours.

We have begun discussing how we can help with Sarah Ivory, the local CWS office director, and there will be things everyone (*yes, every person in our church*) can do. Here are three examples.

- With cold weather coming, CWS has a need for winter coats. Not only could you donate that second or third winter coat from your closet, but we could help organize a coat drive.
- Refugee families need volunteers to help them practice speaking English. They offer ESOL classes every day, but the families lack the change to practice their language skills. This would be your

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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.

Our Next Newsletter

Deadline: Friday, October 28
Publication: Wed., November 2

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

October 23, 2011

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

October 30, 2011

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Rev. Julie Peebles
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
jrboul@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. Jessica Gudmundson
Nursery Director
jess_gud@hotmail.com

Ms. Judy Page
Office Manager
office@congregationalucc.com
Office Hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Monday thru Wednesday & Friday

Ms. Amy Usry
Youth Group Coordinator
amy_usry@yahoo.com

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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Church World Service

(Continued from page 1.)

chance to help people learn some of what all of us already know, how to function using English.

- CWS prepares an apartment for a new family almost every Friday. They need help moving and stocking the apartment so it is ready.

So here are three ways to help, and there will be more. If these interest you, be in touch with Paul to get the ball rolling. CWS will provide volunteer orientation and training.

Along the way, we will have educational opportunities, and chances to meet families and other volunteers.



Exploring Contemplative Prayer

Beginning Sunday October 30th, Teresa Earles will be offering a seven-week study entitled "Exploring Contemplative Prayer." The group will discuss what contemplative prayer actually is and will then look at different ways to open oneself to the contemplative experience. Lectio Divina, Guided Meditation, Body Prayer and Music will be presented as methods for opening ourselves to what God may be trying to tell us.

The first meeting will be Sunday afternoon, October 30th from 2:30 to 6:30 pm. All following weeks, meetings will be from 4:30 to 6:30. Participants are asked to bring a journal and a pen or pencil with them to each meeting.

Teresa will be in the Fellowship Hall for the next two Sundays to answer questions you may have and to allow you to sign up. The group is open to both men and women, but it is limited to 12.

Another Small Group Opportunity

Julie will offer a discussion on Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins: Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*, on Wednesdays, 7:00 to 8:30 pm, October 26, November 2, 9, 16. Contact the office to reserve your place and to order a book (cost is around \$20). If you were in the first group and have a book you would lend or sell, please be in touch as well.



CROP Walk: October 23

Funds raised go to fight hunger in Greensboro and internationally. Walk registration begins at 1:30 pm, with registration for the 5k run at 2:30 pm. To participate, pick up your packet in the Fellowship Hall after worship on October 23rd. Or, sign up to sponsor a walker/runner, so you too can be represented on the Walk for Hope!



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.*

Stewardship

Inclusive, Faithful, Generous

November is when give focus to Stewardship. The church will offer a general spending plan (we will have the chance to look at the plan in detail at the Budget Hearing in December), and you will be asked to offer your financial support. Last fall we came up with a useful resource, 40-Days of Stewardship (we can make a copy of it available to you if you contact the office). But this year we want to try something different.



Rather than talk about Stewardship, we want to encourage you to *do Stewardship*. Support Mission:1, give some time toward our church's partnership with CWS, help us be the church you want us to be, and then support your church. We run an efficient operation: we buy supplies using coupons and taking advantage of sales, we have reduced our power and btu consumption through better controls and lighting, we keep our building in good repair and we are used seven days a week. We talk about our faith and we find ways to put our faith into action. We believe that God loves this world and its people, and our task as Christians is to show that love. So, buy some cans of tuna, bring us some money to assist the hungry, give some time to help others, and make a pledge to your church. Seriously consider what you can do — because there are serious needs to be met — and then help. We are blessed; be a blessing for others.

Stewardship Luncheon: Sunday, October 30

Ish Whitfield is again serving as chef, and the menu this year will be: baked chicken, rice pilaf (extra for vegetarians), roasted vegetables (extra for vegetarians), rolls, dessert, and tea. You'll be served and you won't have to clean up, and the lunch is free! We always welcome donations, but free is free! A couple people will talk a bit about Stewardship, and we should be done in just over an hour. Make your reservations by contacting the office or marking the pew pad.

We will begin receiving pledges on Sunday, November 20. Following that worship service, we will have our Annual Thanksgiving Covered Dish Lunch with the Grace Community Montagnard Church.



To My CUCC Family

I thank you for all of the loving kind things that you have done for me. I pray that I can return them to others.

Love,
Florence Hilliard



My Habitat For Humanity

Copies of David Rowe's book are available in the Fellowship Hall for \$10 (make checks payable to CUCC).



Holiday CD Available

Many of you recently heard Laurelyn Dossett's beautiful voice at the end of worship the day of the celebration for my 20th anniversary. Laurelyn is a good friend, and known by many of us here as an outstanding musician. If you'd like a wonderful winter/holiday CD for yourself or for a gift, Laurelyn is releasing a beautiful collaboration with several other outstanding musicians entitled, *The Gathering*. This is a unique venture in that the musicians are producing the CD themselves as a Kickstarter Project. This is a way for artists to fund creative projects on their own. To learn more, to order a copy, and if you are interested, to make a pledge toward this effort, go to www.kickstarter.com/projects/1812139072/the-gathering-a-beautiful-new-holiday-recording-fo.



New Members

On Sunday, October 16, we welcomed the following new members (*pictured at left*): Peggy Tooker, Shela Williams, Deborah Wade, Cameron and Stephen Paschall, Lisa Terio-Heath and Donna Heath.



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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Calendar of Events

Regular Weekly Events

Sunday	9:20 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	Rowland & Jordan-Wisseman S.S. Classes
	10:00 am	Smith and Children's Sunday School Classes
	11:00 am	Worship
Monday	6:30 pm	Bella a Capella Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Adult Handbell Rehearsal
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Choir Section Rehearsal – Men or Women alternately
	7:15 pm	Full Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday	7:30 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Panera, W. Market St.)

Upcoming Special Events

Thursday, Oct. 20	9:30 am	Mobile Meals at Peace Church
Tuesday, Oct. 25	6:45 pm	Boards & Council Meetings
Friday, Oct. 28		Newsletter Deadline
Sunday, Oct. 30	12:30 pm	Annual Stewardship Luncheon
Sunday, Nov. 6		All Saints Sunday
Tuesday, Nov. 15	10:30 am	Women's Circle (Friends Home Guilford)
	7:00 pm	Women's Circle
Thursday, Nov. 17	9:30 am	Mobile Meals at Peach Church
Sunday, Nov. 20		Pledge Sunday & Thanksgiving Meal with Grace Community Montagnard Church



Upcoming Birthdays

10/21	Courtney Kent	10/30	Lynn Magyar	11/8	Sarah Rice	11/13	Mary Burch
10/21	Walter Burch	11/1	Annabel Martin	11/8	Brooks Truitt	11/16	Teresa Earles
10/24	Laura Yountz	11/5	Olav Rueppell	11/8	Lewis Duckworth	11/20	Bryan Jenkins
10/24	Jeph Patterson	11/6	Marjorie Liles	11/9	Lynn Wright-Kernodle	11/20	Lawrence Lambert
10/27	Tammy Heil	11/6	Harley Fleischer	11/11	Becky Bulla	11/22	Milton Shaw
10/29	Ed Shroyer	11/8	Roger Gibbs	11/12	Linda DeShazo	11/24	Jude Grayer