

Meals Ministry

Food, Fellowship and Fun!

Cooking With Butch
Saturday, February 18 at 2:30 pm

We will join together in the CUCC Fellowship Hall/Kitchen to prepare meals that can be placed in the freezer at church. These meals will be available to be delivered to members that are ill or in need of a meal.

Important reasons to join in this effort with the Deacons:

1. *Help stock the CUCC refrigerator with meals that can be used on short notice.*
2. *Meet people you may not already know in the church.*
3. *Spend time with old friends.*
4. *Prepare an extra meal to take home to your own family.*
5. *Serve our church community.*

We have seven folks signed up so far . . . but we would like many more! Please contact Cathy Wheeler (wheelercc@rockinghamcc.edu) or Teresa Earles (teresaeearles3@gmail.com) to sign-up. We need to know by Sunday, February 12th in order to know how much food to buy.

Thank you and we look forward to cooking with all of you and Butch!



Ash Wednesday

The season of Lent is observed by much of Christianity as the period from Ash Wednesday till Maundy Thursday. It is a time of preparation for Easter, marked by prayer, reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent also recalls the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness before beginning his active ministry. Traditionally, Sundays are not counted in the forty days since they are considered "mini-Easters." Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday Service. We will have a simple meal at 6:00. The service will begin at 7:00. Invite others to come and join us for this meaningful service!



Lenten Small Group

Learning Forgiveness: A Lenten Study

Ever struggled to forgive someone? What does the Bible actually say about forgiveness? Do some people forgive too quickly? Come and learn more in this five-week study. Thursdays in March: March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Pre-registration is required – call or e-mail the office or Julie Peebles by February 23.



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, March 2
Publication: Wed., March 7

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

February 5, 2012

Isa. 40:21-31, Ps. 147:1-11, 20c,
1 Cor. 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

February 12, 2012

2 Kin. 5:1-14, Ps. 30,
1 Cor. 9:24-27, Mark 1:40-45

February 19, 2012

2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6,
2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

February 26, 2012

Gen. 9:8-17, Ps. 25:1-10,
1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

March 4, 2012

Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16, Ps. 22:23-31,
Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38



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
336-202-3691

Rev. William C. Smith
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Paul Davis
Minister for Christian Education
paul@congregationalucc.com
336-207-5656

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. 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 . . .

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

From the Pastor

Whatever the Season



“And the seasons, they go round and round . . .” So here we are in a winter that at times has felt more like spring, and in

the church season of Epiphany that will soon give way to Lent! In addition to that, we are in the midst of campaign seasons (do they ever end??) with all the ads and speeches and news reports.

What season are you in? Is this a season of change and transition, or a season of stay-the-course? A time of tumult, newness, or of rest? As I mentioned last Sunday, in the UCC we are fond of saying that “no matter who you are, no matter where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.” No matter what season you are in, you are welcome here.

In this Newsletter you will find information about an upcoming Lenten small group opportunity. You will find information about our session on Feb. 16 about Amendment One. There are opportunities for study and service and for folks to simply be together in a supportive environment. And central to it all is worship: our time of centering, sharing our joys and concerns, praying together, singing, hearing God’s word anew.

Wherever we find ourselves, whether dealing with difficult workloads, or gearing up to do battle on the political realm, trying to raise our kids or tending to our parents, encountering a new stage in life or simply enjoying it all, God welcomes us and invites us to discover a peace that passes all understanding. To be centered, grounded, loved.

While I cherish the UCC Statement of Faith, I have also come to love that of the United Church of Canada. The last lines sum up for me not simply a nice sentiment, but a profound part of our reason for coming together as a church, through all the seasons of our lives: God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

— Julie Peeples



Monthly Ecumenical Taizé Service

**First Thursday of Every Month
7:00 pm**

**All Saints Episcopal Church
4211 Wayne Road, Greensboro
(336) 299-0705**

Please join us for this simple service that makes use of chants, short scriptures, reflection, and silence. Silence will be observed in the Hall beginning at 6:45 pm.



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.

CWS Partnership Update, Youth, Amendment One



We will have a volunteer orientation with Church World Service this Saturday, February 4, from 9:00 to 11:00 am, at the CWS offices

which are located at 620 South Elm Street, Suite 315 (this is the northwest corner of South Elm and West Lee Street).

CWS will have (or did have, depending on when you read this) a dedication of their new Computer Lab on Thursday, February 2, at 3 pm. Our church is providing for much of cost of this lab, through our local ministry initiative.

—Paul Davis



Youth Group Doings

This year has started with a bang!! We have been meeting every Sunday, and have had very good attendance. This month we participated in a fundraising event for Project B.A.R.K. at Poblano's, and went to World Religion Day at Temple Emanuel. After the presentations that day, we were all able to help fill bags for the Backpack Project; where schools distribute food to students on Fridays to help carry them through the weekend.

We have been tackling some excellent, relevant issues of ethical behavior and consequences. The youth are enthusiastic and very wise for their age. They come up with some powerful observations!

The youth have decided that one hour youth group was too short, and asked if we could meet for a longer period of time on Sundays. Beginning in February, our normal meeting time will be two hours, with an extra half hour for lunch.

Kudos to the parents providing lunch! You all have really stepped up to the plate. You are very much appreciated by all of us!

We have some great activities planned for this spring. Cameron Paschall will be joining us on February 5 to teach us how to work with stained-glass. The next Sunday we will be participating in the Interfaith Tour. Later in the month, Anika and her mother will teach us how to create the beautiful flowers Anika has been wearing in her hair.

In addition to all our activities, the youth would like to spruce up the Youth Room, so we will work on that as well. We will be staying busy, and having fun!

Look for more Youth activities and events coming up. There will also be more photos!

—Amy Usry



Amendment One:

What Does It Say?

What Does It Mean?

Come and find out on **Thursday, February 16 at 7:00 pm.** The program will consist of two parts.

Part One will be informational: what does the proposed amendment actually say, how did it come about, what are the implications.

Part Two will be for those who want to stay and discuss how we can respond as people of faith. What specific actions might we take as individuals? As a faith community?

For this important session, we will be welcoming folk from other neighborhood churches, including First Christian (Disciples of Christ), and possibly several others. CUCC'ers are also welcome to invite others to join us. This will be a great oppor-

tunity for a diverse group to learn together in a safe and welcoming environment about this extremely important issue coming up for a vote in May.

Dessert and coffee will be available beginning at 6:45 pm. Part One of the program will begin at 7:00. Part Two will follow at 8:00.

Questions? Contact Julie Peoples.



Annual Meeting

Materials Available

Our congregation's Annual Meeting was held Sunday January 29 and was well-attended. The budget was passed, and Becky Fleischer was elected as the third member of our At-Large Committee for Church Council. The annual reports and budget information are available in the church office if you did not pick them up Sunday. Many thanks to all who wrote reports, to Kate Larson and Pam Aldridge for their outstanding work with finances, and to Judy Page for her excellent work with the annual reports!



In Case of Emergency & More

As I listened to the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, broadcast live from Cambridge England, I went to the web site for the Chapel of Kings College where I downloaded a copy of the program. It was over fifty pages! But after the cover, the next page dealt with how to evacuate the chapel in case of fire. Given that the Chapel has been around for some 500 years, they seem to have managed rather well — no fires yet.

For the past year, a Board of Management task force (Randy Yardley, Mike Dorko, and Clif Karnes) has been working on an Emergency Response Plan for our church. The plan is an attempt to answer two broad questions: how do we stay safe in an emergency, and how do we continue functioning as a church following an emergency? The simple answer is, of course, it depends on the emergency. The Plan is a more complex answer that looks at situations that are not normal and what we believe we should do. Now we won't fill our bulletin with instructions, but we want you to know that in the coming weeks we will install notices in each room and cards in the pews instructing us what to do in case something goes wrong, like smoke or fire or someone getting sick. The plan is more comprehensive than this, of course. But we want you to know that we are getting ready in case a piece of space debris crashes into our building, or indeed many other types of emergencies.

—Paul Davis



Next Meeting Night

Our boards and church council will meet on Tuesday, February 28. We will begin at 6:45 pm with a time of prayer; boards will meet at 7:00, Council at 8:15.

Ministry Teams

The Deacons would like to thank everyone attended the Ministry Showcase on January 29th and all who signed up to participate and assist in the various church ministry teams. The enthusiasm was wonderful and we know we are going to have a great year working together!

A member from each team will be contacting everyone who signed up with more details as they are available.



Sock Tree

Thank you once again for your generosity in decorating our Christmas Sock Tree this year. Cone Elementary School children have received 110 pairs of socks plus some hats and mittens – Greensboro Urban Ministry has received over 250 pairs of socks for all ages. Many people will find happiness and comfort and warmth these wintry days because of you. Thank you very much.

—Dot Ballinger



Ushering in the New Year

We are in need of ushers for Sunday worship. Regularly serving on monthly rotations, they also cover for one another when an usher is away. Interested? Speak with Clyde Humphrey or Mike Dorko.

Volunteers

February 5

Lay Reader: Barbara Whitener
Nursery: M. Shaw and A. Buffington
Coffee Hour: Katherine and Jeri Rowe
Counters: Ritter/ Earles

February 12

Lay Reader: Irwin Smallwood
Nursery: Laura and Cate Coffee
Coffee Hour: Connie Usry
Counters: Nances

February 19

Lay Reader: Jenny Berggren
Nursery: J. Rowe and B. Fleischer
Coffee Hour: C. Speagle and T. Way
Counters: Brewers

February 26

Lay Reader: Chris Burr
Nursery: M. Bocci and A. Kelley
Coffee Hour: Rick and Anne Barton
Counters: Hertlein/ Moore-Painter

February Ushers

Harold Ashworth, Ed Driver,
Charles Hertlein, Frank Kuester

March 4

Lay Reader: TBA
Nursery: A. & R. Alexander
Coffee Hour: Caviness/ Kuester
Counters: Earles/ Moore-Painter

March Ushers

Sherrill Hall, Betty & Mac Mackenzie,
Karl Schleunes

Financial Reports

Weekly Income	01/01/12	01/08/12
Pledged Offering	\$6,076.00	\$2,180.00
Unpledged Offering	597.00	592.00
Use of Church	400.00	45.00
Prepaid Pledges	10,898.56	---
Invested Funds Inc.	5,366.03	---
Total	\$23,337.59	\$2,817.00

Weekly Income	01/15/12	01/22/12
Pledged Offering	\$5,921.66	\$2,072.00
Unpledged Offering	1,093.00	988.00
Use of Church	790.00	---
Memorial Fund	---	95.00
Total	\$7,804.66	\$3,175.00

Weekly Income	01/29/12
Pledged Offering	\$2,456.00
Unpledged Offering	753.25
Use of Church	445.00
Memorial Fund	70.00
Blanket Fund	570.00
Christmas Fund	40.00
Cone Elem. School	50.00
Total	\$4,384.25

Budget Income/Expense Summary: Jan.

Income	Expenses	Surplus
\$40,673.50	\$24,777.67	\$15,895.83

Cone School Partnership, CWU, Art Exhibit and More

Thank you for all you have been doing and continue to do to help with this partnership! Everything is greatly appreciated. Continuing needs are listed below.

Back Packs: This is the second school year we have partnered with First Christian Church to provide four back packs of food each week. Suggested items: cereal, oatmeal, grits, breakfast bars; individual fruit cups; mac & cheese; canned tuna, chicken, beef or ham; pre-cooked bacon; peanut butter and crackers; cans of pasta, vegetables or soup; individual juice, hot chocolate, etc. Any items welcomed! Put in the Urban Ministry box as food not used for backpacks is taken to Urban Ministry.

School Supplies: Paper, pencils, crayons, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, large zip-lock bags, notebooks, etc. can always be used.

Books: The school is always thrilled when books are donated. Copies of the lists of suggested books will be outside the office door; however, any books are always appreciated. Send an e-mail to Ann to request an electronic copy.

Clothing: Over 100 pairs of socks, gloves and hats were given to the school from our Christmas sock tree. With 400 students, they can use more of these items at any time.

Be the Change.

Be a Cone Elementary Volunteer.



Mentors, reading buddies, tutors, lunch buddies, etc. There is always a need to help these children. If you can help by donating time, please let Ann know and she will coordinate with the school.

All food, clothing and supplies donations may be placed in the Greensboro Urban Ministry box. Donations by check can be made payable to CUCC with Cone School on the memo line. For info, contact Ann Roberts at 336-855-9685 or anniemae13@hotmail.com.



New Address

Alison Langley
4 Jamie Hill Drive
Asheville, NC 28806
336-324-5263, aldoula@bellsouth.net



From Church World Service

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your generous contribution — especially appreciated in this challenging economy. Thanks to caring donors like you, Church World Service can provide food, water and other necessities to families displaced by natural disasters. And with your help, we can also assist impoverished communities as they work to improve their farming techniques, develop reliable water sources, and build a more sustainable future.

In a world wounded in so many ways, I remain hopeful because of the creative, resilient women, men, and children we assist around the world, and because of caring people like you, who empower us to act on your behalf. May God bless you for your compassionate support.

—The Rev. John L. McCullough
Executive Dir. and CEO



Church Women United

Please save the first Saturday in March for the Church Women United meeting being held at Peace United Church of Christ, 2714 West Market Street, Greensboro.

The morning begins at 10:00 am with registration and refreshments. After a brief period of devotions, there will be a presentation by participants in Teen Challenge, a local group which our Greensboro unit of Church Women United supports.

All are welcome to join us on March 3rd at 10:00 am. Contact Eileen Stirling at 852-0170 if you have questions.



Esse Quam Videri: Muslim Self Portraits

An ongoing art exhibit at Guilford College with several related events that are free and open to the public. For general exhibit hours and additional info, call 336-316-2438 or go to www.guilford.edu.

Poetic Portraits of a Revolution: Multimedia spoken word performance by Will McInerney, Kane Smego, Mohammad Moussa and Sameer Abdel-khalek at 7:30 pm on Friday, Feb. 10, in the Art Gallery.

Women and Islam: 30-minute film, "The Noble Struggle of Amina Wadud," (an African-American Islamic Feminist) will be shown, followed by a panel facilitated by Diya Abdo, assistant professor of English on Wednesday, February 22 at 5:00 pm in the Art Gallery.



Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

February 2012

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GREENSBORO, NC
PERMIT NO. 44

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
	12:30 pm	Youth Group (until 3:00 pm)
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 (Oakcrest Restaurant)

Upcoming Special Events

Thursday, Feb. 2	7:00 pm	Taizé Service at All Saints Episcopal
Saturday, Feb. 11	10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal (until 2:30 pm)
Wednesday, Feb. 15	11:45 am	Lunch at Friends Homes Guilford
Thursday, Feb. 16	9:30 am	Mobile Meals at Peace Church
	7:00 pm	Amendment One Forum
Saturday, Feb. 18	2:30 pm	Cooking With Butch
Tuesday, Feb. 21	10:30 am	Women's Circle (Friends Homes Guilford)
	7:00 pm	Women's Circle
Wednesday, Feb. 22	6:00 pm	Covered Dish Supper
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Tuesday, Feb. 28	6:45 pm	Boards and Council Meetings



Upcoming Birthdays

2/2	Lib Basham	2/9	Elizabeth Rowe	2/22	David Ridge	2/27	Ann Nelson
2/2	Inwin Smallwood	2/11	Joann Myrick	2/23	JoAnne Simpson	2/28	Nancy Prairie
2/5	Martha Hall	2/13	Bill Powell	2/23	Ishmael Whitfield	2/28	Lou Boyles
2/6	Kimberly Simpson	2/16	Kay Swofford	2/23	C.P. Gause	2/29	Kathy Rice
2/8	Barbara Rice	2/18	Paul Macy	2/24	Lynn Hamilton	3/1	Angie Ramsey
2/9	Sharon Karnes	2/19	Bill Guill	2/26	Reid Matthews	3/11	Krista Kohlphenson