

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working for Social Justice

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Stephen S. Halsted, Pastor

June 2002

Lectionary for June

June 2, Second Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 6:9-22; 7:24; 8:14-19; Ps. 46 OR Deut. 11:18-21, 26-28; Ps. 31:1-5, 19-24; Rom. 1:16-17; 3:22b-28 (29-31); Matt. 7:21-29

June 9, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 12:1-9; Ps. 33:1-12 OR Hos. 5:15-6:6; Ps 50:7-15; Rom. 4:13-25; Matt. 9:9-13, 18-26;

June 16, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 18:1-15(21:1-7); Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19 OR Exod. 19:2-8a; Ps. 100; Rom. 5:1-8; Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 23, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 21:8-21; Ps. 86:1-10, 16-17 OR Jer. 20:7-13; Ps. 69:7-10 (11-15), 16-18; Rom 6:1b-11; Matt. 10:24-39

June 30, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 22:1-14; Ps. 13 OR Jer. 28:5-9; Ps. 89:1-4, 15-18; Rom. 6:12-23; Matt.10:40-42

Dear Friends,

As you read this Newsletter, I will be away in New Mexico making preparations to move our household from Albuquerque to North Carolina. Marcy and I along with our two cats, Cocomo and Kiwi, will travel by car and plan to arrive back here on June 3rd or 4th. We then sign all the closing papers on our new home on June 5th and move in the next day. Please pray for us as we travel and get settled in our new home. I'm sure many of you have been in similar situations and know how stressful moving can be!

I will be back in church on June 9th to lead worship. In my absence we have 2 Sundays that promise to be wonderful worship opportunities. On May 26th, we have invited Valerie (Johnson) Melvin back after her graduation from Duke Divinity School to preach and lead the congregation in worship. The following Sunday, June 2nd, our excellent choir will present their special musical gift "Requiem" for your upliftment! We will also celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion which will be served by the Rev. Ann McLaughlin our

friend and fellow member of CUCC. We are blessed to have a congregation filled with so many talented people who can lead our ministry forward here at CUCC and I am thankful to be able to be away and know things are in good hands!

Blessings to all,

Pastor Steve

PRAYERS

The Monday Lunch Group offers prayers each week for those persons and needs of which they are aware. Please write your requests on a slip of paper and place it in the offering plate or one of the prayer jars at the back of the sanctuary or in Pilgrim House.

Please remember in your prayers: Prayers for Sue Richey's daughter and her family. She is doing better, much a long road to recovery. Her family needs God's support more than ever. Please continue prayers for Linda Baker as she recuperates from surgery.

The Caring Committee wants to know of the special needs of any of our members and friends so that we can respond to those needs. Please keep us informed by calling Marge Eckels, 787-5552, with any news.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

POTLUCK on June 9th!

Our monthly potluck get-together will be held on June 9th, the second Sunday of the month. Join us in the Vaughan Wing right after the 10:30 service and enjoy the fellowship of your CUCC friends. Guests, visitors and children are welcome, so feel free to invite them. The evening is hosted by the **Church Council**. Please bring a salad, or cheese and crackers, or veggies and dip, or a casserole, or dessert, or any other culinary delight that you want to share with others!

CUCC Retirees Group

It's summer break time! Retired folks will not meet again until September, when we'll begin an interesting series of programs for the next season. We'll see you in the fall.

Women's Support Group June 27th in the Bradow, 7:00pm. Share some especially interesting travel experiences and show a few pictures and mementos. Leader – Linda Rudd, who has lived in several foreign countries.

CUCC Sunday School Calendar:

Summer church school - Program starts June 2.

June 2 - family worship
June 9 – games
June 16 – video
June 23 – art
July 7 – family worship
July 14 – games
July 21 – Vacation Bible School celebration
July 28 – art
Aug. 4 – family worship
Aug. 11 - games

Family worship: If you would like to help collect the offering, hand out bulletins, or ring the gong, be sure to ask the usher AT LEAST 10 minutes before worship begins. *Remember to bring your Urban Ministries food bag today!*

Games: Be prepared for relays, treasure hunts, obstacle courses, and brain teasers. A surprise is waiting for anyone who has a memory verse ready to recite.

Art: Get creative with Judy and Suzette. We'll have fun in the arts.

Johns River Valley Camp

June 16, 2002, First day of summer camp. A complete summer camp schedule is available on the web (www.jrvc.org).

Tai Chi will be held Wednesdays June 12 and June 19 in the Hoffmann Room.

Intergenerational Vacation Bible School

Don't forget to mark your calendars. VBS begins July 15. Plan to join us for one or all of the evenings. The focus of this year's VBS is the Habitat for Humanity project. We will have potluck dinners; great desserts; learning experiences and lots of fun.

YARD SALE

Sponsored by Loaves & Fishes

Saturday, June 15 7 am – noon

Volunteers needed for Friday setup and Saturday Yard Sale. Call Suzette Roach to volunteer or for more information. LAF 231-4687, ext. 222, or at home, 460-8678.

There are several opportunities to support **Loaves and Fishes** this month. On Saturday, June 15, LAF will be having a yard sale in the Vaughan Wing. Bring your donations (no appliances or adult clothing please!) between 8am and 7pm on the 14th. The sale will start Saturday at 7am. **Volunteers** to help with separating and organizing the donations, or helping with the sale will be greatly appreciated.

Loaves and Fishes has created two new fundraisers this spring in response to a challenge grant. Any money donated through these fundraisers will be matched by a foundation.

First, LAF is raffling a \$2,000 shopping spree at Crabtree Valley Mall. Tickets are available for only \$10 each. You can purchase your tickets from Suzette after worship, or from the LAF office (231-4687) by credit card.

The second fundraiser is a “Pennies for Children” campaign. Churches, groups and individuals that support LAF are collecting pennies, which the LAF children are counting and charting. During June, the offering taken up during our children’s sermon will be donated to this campaign. Feel free to slip your own change into the container, or bring your penny collection to Suzette.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS



Marge Eckels reported that the members of CUCC donated 18 bags of groceries in May to the Urban Ministries. The food bag donations are collected the first Sunday of the month. Please maintain a high level of giving during the summer. When children are not receiving meals at school, many families need help with feeding them at home. The Food Bank shopping cart and lists of needed items can be found in the Vaughn Wing.

Adult Education Committee

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum will not meet during June, July or August, but an exciting program is planned for the fall.

Social Action Committee

“Choosing Hope Over Experience”

On May 26th David Potorti spoke at the Adult Forum. He talked about an organization of which he is an important member, Peaceful Tomorrow. The following is from an article, “Choosing Hope Over Experience” that he wrote for the journal “Fellowship,” a magazine of peacemaking published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation:

On February 14th, family members of September 11 victims from all over the United States – including California, Montana, North Carolina, New York, and Connecticut – announced the formation of Peaceful Tomorrows (peacefultomorrows.org). Its mission is to seek effective alternatives to war as a response to the terrorist attacks. By seeking justice without revenge, and conscientiously exploring other options, we choose to spare additional innocent families the suffering that we have already experienced, as well as to break the endless cycle of violence and retaliation engendered by war. These are the group’s goals:

- To encourage a multilateral use of sensible and appropriate means to bring those responsible for the September 11 attacks to justice in an international criminal court.
- To make possible a safe, open dialogue on alternatives to war.
- To provide support and fellowship to others seeking peaceful and just responses to terrorism.
- To educate and raise the consciousness of the public on issues surrounding war and peace.
- To guard against erosion of civil liberties and other freedoms at home as a consequence of war.
- To promote US foreign policy that places a priority on principles of democracy and human rights.

- To recognize our fellowship with other innocent people touched by violence and war, regardless of nationality.
- To join with like-minded groups in furthering the causes of peace and justice.

In all of these pursuits, we believe that we are seeking a triumph of hope over experience.

The **Adult Education Committee** and the **Social Action Committees** share this with you because we found it helpful as we consider what it means to be a Just Peace Church and we think you will find it helpful too.

Caring Committee

Eckels Bequest

The Wider Outreach Committee is currently accepting suggestions for the Eckel's Bequest. Have an idea? Contact a member of the committee.

Communications Committee

A Reminder to Committee Chairs and Planners of Any Special Events

Please turn in pictures of your activities to the church office that would be appropriate for our pictorial directory. The planning committee will need a wide selection from which to choose. Pictures already on hand from the last six months would be helpful.

Volunteering Opportunities

The Ark Shelter is now the Wright Center and even though they have changed their name, they still need our help with dinners. Jane Smith is in need of two families or groups to help with dinners for the Center during June and July. Menu ideas are available.

Letters of Thanks

Dear CUCC Friends,

Mission accomplished! You succeeded very well in surprising, entertaining and generously thanking me and I am most grateful. Special thanks to the instigators, planners, performers and contributors. The May 5th celebration in honor of Anne and me was both a joyful and humbling experience. I was deeply touched by the exciting Ferrington get-away gift and contribution to the organ fund. I was delightfully amused by the playful and creative songs and skits. I was happy family could share the experience with me. I was emotionally spent by the limelight (a good kind of tired though). So, "you done good", folks! I do feel appreciated, believe me. But more importantly, I feel so very blessed to serve a remarkable community of faith through God's special gift of music to us all and to share this ministry with a wonderful and gifted colleague, Anne, our great chancel choir (kazoos and all) and our inspiring Apostolic Voices. I have to admit, it didn't take the celebration to make me feel this way. I always have. But it sure was a nice reinforcement and I wouldn't give anything for the memory of that special time together that will last a lifetime.

In sincerest appreciation,

DOUG and ANNE DAY

What a wonderful time we all had celebrating with Doug & Sheila Barrick and Anne Moorman-Smith and Monty Smith and their families on Sunday, May 5th! The final count was right at 100 people stuffed like sardines into the Vaughan Wing helping make the day a tremendous success and lasting memory for all. Very special thanks to Sheila and Monty for working with us and keeping the secret for close to 2 years. Also, great appreciation to Steve and Carol Clark for jumping right in since January assisting with so many details which assured a smooth event. Much gratitude to the choir, the Congolese performers, and the combo for all of their creative efforts and their time spent in preparation – what excellent results. And to all the

many, many volunteers – so many that I’m not allowed the space to name names – who assisted with committee planning food, table preparation, clean-up, shopping, & decorating. I hope each of you know how appreciated and valuable you are.

And of course a huge THANK YOU for the very generous donations. What fun we had, and the surprise was kept!!

Lisa Leiser-Banks
Surprise Party Committee

Membership update

JJ Johnson has transferred her membership to a Wake Forest church and Sally Hardy has transferred to Suffolk, VA.

SPECIAL DAYS

Youth Birthdays

June Birthdays*

- 6/12/84 – Dan Ledbetter
- 6/12/93 – Angelina DeVito
- 6/13/95 – Carson Roach-Howell
- 6/20/84 – Jeremy Allen
- 6/20/85 – Esther Pumbu
- 6/22/85 – Colette Cosner
- 6/23/83 – Sam Pickett
- 6/25/90 – Maclin Peters
- 6/30/96 – Ernesto Rivera Saavedra

**If you are missing from this list, we apologize. Please notify the office so we can update our records.*

Announcements

Deadline extended

The UCCNews is published monthly by our denomination and is now available free of charge to anyone who wishes to receive it. It is a good way to keep us informed about trends and events in the broader UCC community. Please fill out this form and return it to the church office by June 7 if you would like to receive it.

Names (please print) _____
Address _____
_____ Zip _____

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June 2002 Newsletter

**July Newsletter Deadline is Monday,
June 24th.**

The Newsletter can be found on our web page:
www.communityucc.org