

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working For Social Justice

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Newsletter published monthly for Community United Church of Christ (CUCC) members and friends Pastor: Steve Halsted Newsletter Editorial Board: Vandy Bradow, Carol Clark, and Susan Lane

A Word from our Pastor

Dear Friends,

As we head into February, we begin the Season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service on February 6th at 7 p.m. It will be a quiet, reflective worship based upon the Taize style. Perhaps those of you who have never attended our 9 a.m. Taize service held each Sunday could satisfy your curiosity about how Taize is done by attending this evening service. It will set a nice tone for making Lent a special season of spiritual growth. It will certainly have special meaning for me as it will be my last service to lead before having surgery on Friday, February 8.

I will be in the hospital for several days before recuperating at home for 3-4 weeks. The Sundays I am out will be covered in the Deacons report later in this newsletter, but I want to highlight that our Southern Conference Minister, Steve Camp, will be our guest preacher on February 17. We are fortunate to host him and learn about new positive advances within the Southern Conference. Please come and meet and get to know him better. He has done a fine job in guiding our conference through periods of troubled waters.

It is my hope to be back leading worship on March 9 and celebrating the Resurrection Life in Christ on Easter Sunday, March 23rd! In the meantime I'm counting on your prayers to carry me through – thank you for all your blessings!

Blessings & Peace

Steve

Church Council

Excerpts from the January 21, 2008, Minutes

Attending: John Little, Sam Johnson, Robert Parrish, Gary Smith, Pam Thompson, Jeanne Ledbetter

John Little presented a proposal from **Lavon Page** regarding the media station in the Vaughan fellowship hall. Lavon volunteers to help put together a more elegant permanent installation of the peripherals particularly since the setup needs to be stabilized. **Robert Parrish** moved that we give Lavon the go ahead; it was seconded and all agreed. Another matter that Lavon mentioned is the old TV in the Vaughan closet. The Council members in attendance agreed to table that decision for now.

John mentioned the offering of a Lenten series that Lavon Page would like to conduct with a media focus on Jesus and reconciliation. The films will alternate each week, with one week focused on Jesus and the next focused on reconciliation.

Social Justice—**Gary Smith**

- Cy King invited Rev. Nelson Johnson to preach for us on January 20 and he and his wife spoke at the Forum as well. They were well received.
- Justice in a Changing Climate continues with the series that **Marty Lamb** is leading regarding ways to change present habits and learn how to expand knowledge of ways to protect our environment. Attendees came from Pullen Baptist, White Memorial, Covenant Group as well as CUCCers.
- Another course is being planned to take place during Lent. The ministry will decide if the topic will be on science and policy. Gary spoke of a goal to connect with the wider community of environmentally conscious persons/groups.
- He hopes that people will participate in the unguided Interfaith Power and Light Carb Fest. No dates or details as yet.

Stewardship—**Jeanne Ledbetter**

The nominating committee makes a **plea for help** from the Council to find a chair for Welcoming, Fellowship and Growth Ministry and Community Outreach Ministry. Please speak with us after worship or call Jeanne Ledbetter at 851-8824

Community Outreach Ministry—**Jeanne Ledbetter**

The ministry has plans to explore how to document the people in our church who minister in the community.

Other discussions—

Pam Thompson introduced herself as the new clerk and was attending to familiarize herself with how the meetings are run. John suggested that we all introduce ourselves and talk so we can know each other better. This activity was very helpful and we discovered there were many things we didn't know about each other.

-- **Jeanne Ledbetter**, recorder

Library Notice

You are invited to examine a new book in the church library, How to Read the Bible; A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel.

Posted on the library bulletin board is a review of this new look at the Hebrew Bible. Kugel, a former Harvard professor, is an orthodox Jew living in Jerusalem. You are welcome to check out this book for one week. Be sure to sign your name on the check out sheet.

There are many interesting books in our library which you may take out with no time restrictions on returning. January and February are reading times!

Submitted by **Geraldine Bryan**, Librarian

Congregational

Excerpts of the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting, January 20, 2008 – Geri Bowen

The meeting was called to order by **John Little**, Moderator. **Robert Parrish** led us in a prayer. The minutes of the Dec. 2, 2007 meeting were reviewed, corrected and approved.

Confirmation of New Officers and Ministry Members.

Lists of ministry and committee members were distributed. **Jeanne Ledbetter**, chair of the nominating committee, spoke to vacancies – chairs of Welcoming, Fellowship & Growth and of the Community Outreach Ministry and need for one more person on the Adult Ed. Committee. **Joan Little** is to be added to the Stewardship Ministry. Vandy moved, **Frank Gailor**

seconded to accept the slate. **Mary Pruneau** questioned who would get people to run fellowship events, with no chair of Welcoming, Fellowship and Growth, and suggested the Council could designate someone. **Cynthia Ball** asked for clarification of who's on the Council. The Council consists of all the chairs of ministries. The slate was approved unanimously.

Approval of 2008 Budget.

Copies of the budget were distributed. Vandy moved to adopt the budget. Bill Lamb seconded.

- **Marge Eckels** questioned only \$300 for meals at the Wright Center. **Geri Bowen** explained that this has never been a budget item at all before; people prefer to donate money directly for these meals, whenever the fund runs low. Vandy requested record keeping on the cost of Wright Center meals, so we know how much is really being contributed. Geri Bowen said she asks people to keep track, but has not followed through. She will begin ensuring that people keep track of costs, and she will forward the information to **Carol Clark**. It was decided to raise the figure in the budget for the Wright Center to \$1200, as it costs about \$100 per month. **Fawn Pattison** questioned whether we should change the income side to include an "in-kind donations" category to account for donations for the Wright Center. **John Little** suggested that people turn in receipts for food used for fellowship hour and the Wright Center, and write on the receipt that they do not want to be reimbursed, if that is the case – a simpler procedure than the current one. Skip moved, Frank Gailor seconded and it was approved unanimously to accept the amending of the Wright Center budget figure to \$1200.

- **Jane Smith** questioned only \$500 for the Appalachian Service Project. They thought they were getting \$800. Jane moved to amend it to \$600. Frank Gailor seconded. It was approved unanimously. Jane moved and Skip seconded that line 699 Savings for Jan-Dec. 08 be amended to \$15,137 to reflect donations for the Wright Center and the increased money for ASP. The budget was unanimously approved, with all the amendments.

- **Mary Pruneau** moved and Vandy seconded that \$20,000 of **Rev. Steve Halsted's** salary be designated as a housing allowance, as is required by the IRS. This was passed unanimously.

Elder Justice Actions. Vandy reported on several church efforts related to elder justice:

- Religious Education: Church school made valentines and took them to Morningside.
- Monday Lunch Group discussed a book, the protagonist of which is a 90-year-old resident of an assisted living facility (*Water for Elephants*).
- Deacons: Caring Committee held Caregivers' seminar.
- Ushers made hearing-assisted devices ready for use and more readily accessible.
- Community Outreach: Continued Meals on Wheels delivery routes.
- Fellowship: Retirees gathered, wrapped, and delivered gifts for Meals on Wheels clients.
- Social Justice: Decided to make an extra donation to Friends of Residents In Long-Term Care
- Property: Purchased and installed pew cushions and adopted lighting as a priority project.
- Congregation in general: Christmas carolers serenaded Jo Lemons and residents of Morningside and Mayview Convalescent Center.

Robert Parrish brought up the problem of the **Deacons Ministry being too big**; its size makes it difficult to get people to serve on other committees, because they're already serving on the Deacons. As a result of discussion with **Rev. Steve Halsted** and nominating chair **Jeanne Ledbetter**, Robert proposed that we reduce the Deacons to 8 from 12, beginning in 2009. He also pointed out that the Deacons are not functioning the way the Constitution outlines. Vandy suggested it be seven members: chairs of Sacraments & Chancel, Ushers, Caring, Arts in Worship, and the Chair, Vice-Chair and at-large member. John Little proposed that this be considered at a later meeting. Jeanne suggested that congregants look at the by-laws to understand how the Deacons are to function and that the Deacons look at the Constitution and make suggestions to the Church Council. **Jane Smith** asked to whom questions on the issue should be directed. **John Little** said to direct questions to the moderator.

Vandy moved and Skip seconded a resolution of thanks, gratitude, and appreciation to **Mary Pickering** for her concert. Unanimously passed.

Mary Pruneau thanked **John Little**, on behalf of all of us, for serving as Moderator.

-- **Geri Bowen**

NOTICE to '07 Ministry/Committee Chairs

As we bring in our new year, please take any records—minutes, correspondence, etc. – that will not be needed by your successor to the church office to be added to CUCC archives.

Cy King, CUCC Historian

Deacons

Excerpts from the **Deacons Ministry** minutes of the January 10, 2008, meeting.

Present were Robert Parrish (chairperson), Skip Stoddard, Steve Halsted (Pastor), Roger Manus, Suzette Roach, Jim Smith, Mac Hulslander, Margaret Osborne and Sam Johnson.

Robert Parrish explained the role of the Deacons. Steve added that he sees Deacons as the ambassadors of the church. They are spiritual leaders and reach out to visitors and new members.

Suzette Roach asked about the Deacons' responsibility for personnel. It was determined that this issue will be discussed at length at next month's meeting.

The Deacons determined that they will rotate Secretarial duties –a different person will do this each month.

Deacons meeting time was discussed, with several noting possible conflicts. Steve noted that the Deacons meeting needs to take place before the newsletter deadline and Robert feels that we should keep the same meeting night every month and would like to stay with our current schedule. That would put our next meeting on Valentines Day which Robert feels is not a good night. Therefore, Robert would like to meet on Feb 7.

Caring

Robert reported **Bill Lamb** will be the new chair of the Caring committee.

- **Joan Little** is doing well; her radiation treatment starts next Monday.
- **David Ledbetter**'s father is in Hospice care.
- **Lisa Marsh**'s situation remains the same. Sue Rogge is working with Lisa.
- **Suzette Roach** noted that her father has had cancer surgery and is doing well.
- Steve explained about **Carol Clark**'s illness and

hospitalization due to high blood pressure. She had numerous tests with no diagnosis and was released today. **Vandy Bradow** and **Anne Pope** came in to type up the bulletin.

- Steve reports that **Jo Lemons**' situation is being evaluated. Information about the types of services that our members have been providing is being gathered and will be given to a social worker who will evaluate the situation.
- **Mike and Nancy Callaham** will be out of town on weekends attending to Mike's mother's needs which resulted from a recent fall.
- **Ruby Lamb** joined the church recently. She has experience a fall recently.
- **Bill Lamb**'s brother Charles has health problems and it was requested that Charles be kept in our prayers.
- **Jim Smith** requested prayer for his uncle, Marshall Parker, who has lung cancer.
- **Ann McLaughlin**'s mother has recently fallen.

Communion

- Trays – **Roger Manus** presented a protocol, that he wrote, for serving communion when trays are used. It states that serving by trays will be done with four deacons and the Pastor. It would use three trays of bread and three trays of wine. The four deacons would serve the congregation in a manner similar to taking up offering. The Pastor would use the third tray to serve the choir and organist.
- Intinction –Some choir members are not comfortable with the current procedure of having the choir come out the center aisle and then go back to the front to be served first. One alternative proposed would be to have a fifth server who would hand the bread to the choir, the choir would pass it around with each member taking the bread and holding it. Then the server would hand the cup to the choir which would be passed around and each choir member could dip and eat the bread. A second alternative would be to have the choir go out the side aisles and sit or merge with the congregation and receive communion the same as congregation. **A decision regarding this issue will be made by the members of the choir. Roger Manus will evaluate the procedure for doing intinction.**

After discussion it was decided that **communion assistants should be in the Sanctuary at 10:15 and let Steve know that they are present.**

Ushers

Sam notes that he has received a complaint about people coming into the service late and that this has been a continuing problem. He will try to communicate to our congregation the need to get in and be seated before church service starts. It was determined that ushers should close the doors at the beginning of the Call to Worship. The usher would allow latecomers to enter at the start of the hymn singing which usually follows the Call to Worship. The usher would also enter the sanctuary at this time. It was discussed that people who come still later during the service should be asked to enter by the door closest to the rear of the Sanctuary. It was suggested that a sign to this effect could be posted on the main door to the Sanctuary. **The decision regarding the posting of a sign is under evaluation.**

Arts in Worship

Suzette reports **Peg Hulslander** is the new chair. Meetings of this committee are normally four times per year.

Julia Mackintosh has shared a sampling of her watercolors for our art wall. Painted at Cape Ann, Mass., they are from a recent exhibit at the Sertoma Art Center.

Sacraments and Chancel

Mac reported that they had completed their busiest time of year, Advent and Christmas.

Pastor

Steve discussed his plans for his surgery, which is scheduled for Feb 8. His recovery time is expected to be 4 weeks. The services during his absence are as follows:

Feb 10 – **Robert Parrish** will run service and preach.

Feb 17 – **Steve Camp**, our conference minister, will preach and Robert will be the worship leader.

Feb 24 – **Hunter Thompson** will run the service and preach.

March 2 – **Sue Rogge** will run the service and preach.

It was noted that although **Nancy Callaham** is away on weekends (tending to Mike's mother), she is in town during the week. She and Robert will tend to the caring and visitation needs of the church during Steve's upcoming absence.

Children's Time

Robert discussed the children's stories (sometimes called sermons). He proposed that we change our procedure by having a select group or pool of persons who like to do children's stories. These persons would sign up to do the children's stories. He noted that normally **Anne Bailey** and Steve Halsted can be counted on to do one children's story each month. This means that only two or three children's story givers will be needed per month. It was noted that our new youth leader, **Sánti Matthews**, will probably be able to do children's stories. Roger stated that he is afraid that using only people in a select group would mean that only women would do the children's stories. He likes the current procedure because it allows different (and new) people to do the children's stories and it especially encourages men to "try their hand" at doing children's stories. It was determined that we would stick with the current procedure but with the addition of circulation of a sign up list for those who may like to do children's stories. Robert volunteered to get children's story givers and scripture readers for February. Roger is responsible for this month (January). Mac volunteered to be responsible for March, and Margaret volunteered for April.

Minutes recorded and written by **Sam Johnson** and revised by **Robert Parrish**.

Come to a traditional pre-Lenten simple supper on

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 5

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

We'll have pancakes and fellowship!

If you don't know what Shrove Tuesday is, come and find out, AND there will be a pancake-flipping contest AND a Liberal Kansas pancake race (about 6–6:30)

**Please call or email the office to
SIGN UP!**

**Vaughan Fellowship Hall
Suggested donation: \$2/adult \$1/age
10 and under**

Call or email Vandy Bradow if you want to help

LENT

Ash Wednesday (February 6) service

Steve anticipates having a Taizé style service at 7 p.m. There will be a 10-minute silence for reflection and the opportunity to participate in the ceremony where ashes are placed on the forehead.

There are currently four special activities planned: :

1. **Marty Lamb** is presenting a Sunday afternoon “changing climate” series on “reducing your carbon footprint”. It started Sunday, January 13.
2. “Changing Climate” series on public policy presented by **Grady McCallie, Edith Sylla, and Gary Smith.**
3. Movie night by **Lavon Page**
4. **Robert Parrish** will have a series on “prayer in the black church”

Lenten Film Series

The Lenten Film Series this year will really be two series running alternate weeks on Friday nights (7-9 PM) from February 8 through March 14. One series (Feb. 15, Feb. 29, Mar. 14) will feature films about the life, teaching, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The other series (Feb. 8, Feb. 22, Mar. 7) will be films about grace and healing. Location: Fellowship Hall. Popcorn provided.

Feb. 8 – **Places in the Heart** (1984) with Sally Field, Danny Glover, and John Malkovich. The final scene in this movie (Holy Communion) is a beautiful declaration of Christian unity and reconciliation. (112 minutes)

Feb. 15 – **Jesus the Teacher.** Excerpts from **The Gospel According to St. Matthew** (1964), a highly regarded film by the Italian director Pier Paolo Pasolini. Excerpts from **King of Kings** (1961), a Hollywood extravaganza (in the best sense of the word) based on the words of Christ and narrated by Orson Welles. Excerpts from **From Jesus to Christ** (1995), a four-hour Frontline series produced by PBS. Excerpts from **Passion of the Christ** (2004) by Mel Gibson. (about 85 minutes of film + discussion)

Feb. 22 – **Marvin's Room** (1996) with Diane Keaton, Meryl Streep, Leonardo DiCaprio, Hume Cronyn, and Robert DeNiro. This little known film with a star-studded cast provides an awesome

demonstration that healing comes in many forms. (98 minutes)

Feb. 29 – **The Easter Story.** Same resources as used on Feb. 15. (about 75 minutes of film + discussion)

Mar. 7 – **Tender Mercies** (1983), the film for which Robert Duvall won his Best Actor Oscar. A film illustrating that grace is a gift rather than something earned. (100 minutes)

Mar. 14 – **Jesus Christ Superstar** (1973). At Easter 1971, the youth at CUCC darkened the sanctuary and played the album "Jesus Christ Superstar" for the congregation as a worship service. Firmly rooted in the music and culture of the early 1970s, this film presents the temptations of Christ and his ragged band of followers in a way that transcends time and culture, while at the same time presenting a fascinating snapshot of the era in which the film was made. (108 minutes)

Submitted by **Lavon Page**

Lenten Prayer Series

During Lent Robert Parrish will be teaching a series on prayer from an African American perspective. The content and discussions will be based on the book entitled **Prayer in the Black Tradition** by Rev. Harold Carter. The main aspects that will be examined are:

- (1). How slaves brought from West Africa used their own background to adapt to Christian customs in America.
- (2). How prayer shaped the civil rights movement in America.
- (3). How the emphasis of prayer in the tradition of Black persons can be applied to the lives of all.

The course will be presented on each Tuesday during Lent. The dates are February 12, 19, 26, and March 4. The class will take place in the Bradow room from 7:00 P.M. until 8:15 P.M.

Submitted by **Robert Parrish**

Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee requests that you submit your expenses for food (fellowship, Wright Ctr., etc.), supplies, curriculum, etc. to the church office for reimbursement. Reimbursement slips are in the communication closet or the church office. **If you want to absorb the expenses**, you may then donate an equal amount to the church: Stewardship needs to know how to plan as you may not be the one absorbing these expenses in the future! See Congregation Meeting minutes (**2008 Budget**) for further explanation.

Thank you to all who came out in support for **Mary Pickering's** concert on Friday, January 18. There were around 80 attendees and a "love offering" of about \$750 was raised toward our church's ministries!!! Mary not only sang beautifully, but added flashes of showmanship to her expansive repertoire of songs. I especially liked her "country" outfit and interpretation of Patsy Cline's song "Crazy" which was written by Willie Nelson. **Kudos** to Mary for a wonderful evening of song and memories. Our special thanks also to the Covenant Community for hosting the reception following the concert.

Religious Education

Church School News

During the month of February the children will be making valentines for the Caring Committee and the residents of Morningside Assisted Living. On February 10th, the church school will take a "field trip" across the street to deliver the valentines and sing to the residents.

At the end of the month, we will begin our next Compassion in Action Service Project. The children will begin collecting gently used and new children's books to donate to WakeMed Children's Center. If you would like to contribute, please talk with Ms. **Anne Bailey**.

Thanks to **Ellen Beidler** for making the DVD of the Christmas Pageant. They have been a great way to share the event with family living far away. If you would like a copy but did not receive, one please

request one from Ms. Anne Bailey.

Calendar

February 3 – Make Valentines and practice songs

February 10 – Visit Morningside, Deliver Valentines, and sing

February 17 – Session 5 "A visit and escape"

February 24 – Session 6 "Jesus is baptized and tempted"

March 2 – Session 7 "Jesus calls the disciples"
submitted by **Heather Burkhardt**

News From the CUCC Youth Corner...

The CUCC youth group is really making themselves at home in their youth space. We are finding that it serves us well for church school gatherings, cooking, socializing, and just plain having fun! We look forward to many more events in our colorful spot. We have settled on somewhat of a pattern for our time together... We have lunches after church every second and third Sunday, and we hope to have one service project and one social event planned each month.

The Recent Past...

January held youth-led reflections in worship on the Appalachian Service Project, two successful post church youth lunches, Mary Pickering's concert with a cookie bake, and an MLK Day lunch and learn.

The Near Future...

Plans for February include two more lunches, a night out at Frankie's Fun House, a Lock-in, and a Lenten surprise for the larger church.

Stay Tuned...

Keep your eyes peeled to your e-mail and know that we are working at planning times and events. If you have ideas or suggestions, or if you haven't received e-mails already and are interested in youth events, please contact Sánti at forsanti@aol.com, or by phone:(919)851-6505 (home) or (919)961-8814 (cell).

Sánti Matthews

Adult Forum

The Forum meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Vaughan fellowship hall.

Cont.

Forum Calendar

February 3 – Rob Schofield of N.C. Policy Watch

February 10 – Christina Cowger – “Stop Torture Now”

February 17 – **Grady McCallie** on the Updating of Raleigh’s Comprehensive Plan

February 24 – Steve Jurovics – “The Environment and the Hebrew Bible”

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Bradow Room as we "read the Bible again for the first time." There is no preparation and no homework.

Wednesday Bible Study

This group meets at Pilgrim House at 6:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays to discuss the next week’s Lectionary selections. Bring a bag supper. More information? Call **Mike Schafale**, 567-1098.

Saturday Men’s Group

The group meets each Saturday at 9:00 a.m. in the library. The Group continues its study of the book "Jesus" by Marcus Borg. The contact for more info is **Ed Klemmer**.

Monday Lunch Group

Bring lunch and join us in the Hoffmann Room Mondays at 12:15 p.m. In February we will continue discussing the book, Open Secrets: The Letters of Reb Yerachmiel Ben Yisrael. The sessions will be led by Geraldine Bryan.

Social Justice

Historic Thousands on Jones Street

On Saturday, February 9, the second annual Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HK on J II) will be held in Raleigh. This event is organized by the NC NAACP and supported by over sixty organizations, including the NC Council of Churches. Gathering will be at Chavis Park at 11:00 a.m. with a rally at 11:30 and a march to the state legislature building 12:30 a.m. People will be coming from all over the state to support this movement. The rally and march are to show support for the **People's Agenda: Fourteen Points:**

1. All children need high quality, well funded, diverse schools.
2. Livable wages and support for low-income people.
3. Health care for all.
4. Redress two ugly chapters in NC's racist history: the overthrow of the bi-racial 1898 Wilmington government and the sterilization of poor, mainly black women from 1947-1977.
5. Same day registration and public financing of elections.
6. Lift every historically black college and university.
7. Document and redress 200 years of state discrimination in hiring and contracting.
8. Provide affordable housing and stop consumer abuse.
9. Abolish racially biased death penalty and mandatory sentencing laws; reform our prisons.
10. Put young people to work to save the environment and fight for environmental justice.
11. Justice for Smithfield workers and collective bargaining for public employees.
12. Protect the rights of immigrants from Latin America and other nations.
13. Organize, strengthen and provide funding for our civil rights enforcement agencies and statues now.
14. Bring our troops home from Iraq now.

Additional information about the fourteen points can be found at www.hkonj.com. We can make arrangements to carpool or meet as a group at the rally if anyone would like.

Submitted by **Shirley Birt**

Property

Property Committee

Meeting 1/13/08 12 noon

Present: Joan McAllister, Bayard Alcorn, David Ledbetter, Allan Beidler, Geraldine Bryant, Kurk, Jim Smith, Peg Hulslander, Mac Hulslander.

Lighting: The committee reviewed the latest projections of lighting using single- and double fixtures with wall sconces, including the choir loft area. After extensive discussion, the majority of the committee agreed that the single fixture with wall

sconces would provide appropriate lighting options. There was an unresolved question regarding the optimum lighting recommended for a sanctuary. This question will be resolved before we proceed to the center light selection; committee members will be informed of the information via email.

Joan McAllister will contact Atlantec to ask the remaining questions and have them draw up the construction documents. Once the wiring is roughed in we will proceed with adding wall board to the interior of the sanctuary to cover the conduit necessary for the wall sconces and to smooth the walls. Some concern has been raised about mold growing on the wallboard. **Jim Smith** gave us information about a new type of wallboard that is not paper covered; this gives the mold no “food” for growth. We will be getting ½” wallboard with extruded foam insulation behind the board.

Glen Core will be asked to provide oversight from the committee to the electrical work. This will govern the start date of the project, since Glen and Shannon are out of town in the late spring and summer. **Mac Hulslander** also agreed to provide oversight as needed.

Doors: We have an estimate from Martin Architectural to replace the back (parking lot) doors with Curristain steel doors with woodgrain that would match our wood on the entrance. The estimate was \$2,822.66. We have received no estimate from B.A. Hoft. Steel doors do retain dents, which would be a disadvantage if they are treated roughly. The committee would like to see some estimates from other companies as well as Martin on fiberglass doors, including ones with windows that would make the entries more attractive. **Geraldine Bryan** would like to see the front (Dixie Trail Side) doors replaced as well.

Repairs:

The back sidewalk pavers have presented ongoing problems since the sidewalk was laid. They are a hazard for anyone, and particularly for persons on walkers or canes, and that is where two of our handicapped spaces are. Joan suggested that the pavers be removed and replaced with concrete that is stained and imprinted with a design. This matter is continued until a later meeting. Hopefully, fixing drain will help to stabilize the sidewalk. Week

before last a root became so water-soaked that it swelled under the brick and lifted one end about ½”.

Bayard Alcorn has agreed to be the contact person regarding repairs to the church. Joan will continue to work on the projects such as the lighting and the doors. Joan suggested that CUCC consider establishing a workgroup that consists primarily of retirees who would work together to complete minor repairs around the church. Pullen Baptist has such a group that has even done such things as to renovate one of the bathrooms. The group was in favor of Joan pursuing this with the retired people in the church to see if there is interest. This would also be a good way for new people to become involved in the work of the church while meeting some of the established members.

Memorial/Meditation Garden

Our thanks to **Nancy and Skip Stoddard**, who tended our garden in January.

Peg Hulslander has submitted a full slate of volunteers for our garden in 2008.

February – **Linda Baker**

March – **The Alcorns**

April – **Fawn Pattison & Grady McCallie**

May – **The Manus’**

June – **Marcy Halsted & Binks Mew**

July – **The Burkhardts**

August – **Vivian Hunter & Sam Johnson**

September – **Ann & Joe Retzer**

October – **Joan & John Little**

November – **Marcy Halsted & Binks Mew**

December – **The Burkhardts**

Helper when needed – **Carol Clark**

Volunteer Helpers are always welcome at any time!

Welcoming, Fellowship & Growth

A CHAIR IS NEEDED FOR THE MINISTRY!

Retirees Fellowship – (2nd Mondays, monthly)
The Retired People will meet at **11:00** (time change) on Monday, February 11. We will view a 20-minute DVD entitled “UCC at 50: Our Future”

followed by our annual Valentines Day potluck. Bring a dish to share; dessert and drinks will be provided. Come join us!

Sisters in Spirit (SIS)

SIS women's group will meet Thursday, February 21 at 7:00 pm in the Hoffmann room and the kitchen. Bring 6 2-cup containers of fresh or frozen home made soup. We will all take home a variety of soups. If possible, we will also keep some (in church freezer) to have on hand to give ill or recuperating church members. Bring a 3x5 inch-size recipe for your soup and these will be duplicated for a future meeting. Also, you are asked to share a book or family tradition about the holidays. More info? Call **Kathy Clift** at 829-7242.

-- Submitted by **Kathy Clift**

NEEDED NOW: Fellowship Hour Folk

We need many folks – a few at a time –to set out beverages and simple nibbles for fellowship hour after Sunday morning services in the upcoming weeks. Contact **Ed or Ruth Klemmer**, phone 847-7992 or email erklemmer@earthlink.net.

Our People

Prayer Requests

Please write your prayer requests on a slip of paper and place it in the offering plate or in one of the prayer jars (Narthex and Pilgrim House.) Our prayers are solicited for:

Jo Lemons, Jo Banks, Al Matthews, Ruby Lamb, Lisa Marsh, Mamie Scott, Nancy Cross' cousins Carolyn and Jean, David Ledbetter's father, Bill, June Bolton, Scottie Bell, Rhonda Zingraff & Charlie Thomas, Roy and Ida Klages, Kerma Hazel, Joan Little, Gretchen Aycock's mother Mary, Mike Callaham's mother Jenny, Dot Littleton, Bill Lamb's brother Charles, Jim Smith's uncle Marshall Parker, Ann McLaughlin's mother and the people of the DRC, and other victims of war and natural disaster across the globe.

We send our love to **Dot Littleton**, who continues to recuperate at home. Cards and phone calls are welcome.

Carol Clark wishes to express her appreciation to those who were so helpful and caring during her recent and brief hospitalization.



Our Young People's Birthdays

2/05/92 – Abby Smith

2/11/95 – Andy Snee

Church Directory

Change:

Joan McAllister, jmcallister11@nc.rr.com

Susan Lane, Office: 582-2440

LIFE TOUCH DIRECTORY

The Life Touch pictorial directory is still in production, soon to be proofed and finalized.

Community Outreach

A CHAIR IS NEEDED FOR THE MINISTRY!

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR BY BRINGING FOOD BAGS!



For the first month of the year we contributed 22 emergency food bags – a goodly amount with which to start a new year. During 2007 we collected a total of 247 bags, an average of 20 and a half a month. Those bags were valued at \$3,705.

which is quite a lot extra beyond our budgeted amount for community outreach. Thanks for your faithfulness in trying to meet the needs of hungry families.

Food bags are due **February 3** and every first Sunday of the month.

Submitted by **Marge Eckels**

Wider Community

This is a call to donate your computer's "screen saver" time to climate change research in Africa. Join "Team CUCC" on the world community grid and help climate change researchers.

If you don't know about the World Community Grid, but I wanted to share some information about it. The Grid is a research organization that is trying to harness technology to solve scientific problems.

The best way to describe them is that of an old farmers "barn raising". A single farmer would have great difficulty building a barn him/herself. By creating a community of helpers, they are able to build something they would otherwise be unable to do.

The Grid is a 21st century equivalent. They want to support scientific research in areas which require huge amounts of computing power. Rather than try to buy the biggest and most powerful (and expensive) computer, they decided to build a community of volunteers. Each project is broken up into tiny pieces and sent out to lots of folks who only need to work on one piece. People sign up to help the grid using their home computers.

How does this work? Think of what happens when your screen saver comes on. The computer is sitting there idle, supposedly doing nothing. What if you took that "screen saver" time and dedicated it to help climate change research? The Grid does exactly that. It installs a very small program on your computer which only runs when your screen saver is on. It periodically picks up new pieces of the research project or "drops off" completed pieces. I have found this small program to be very unobtrusive. There is no spam, no spyware, no viruses.

I have been on the Grid for years and have cumulated 346 days of donated computing power to various projects, including AIDS research. That means it was the same as if as if I ran my computer all day and night for 346 days. This was accomplished by just donating my screen saver time!

Participating is free !

There is a new project on the Grid supporting climate change research in Africa. I have signed up for this and also created a "CUCC" Team that I invite you to join.

Home page - <http://www.worldcommunitygrid.org/>

List of all research projects you can contribute to - http://www.worldcommunitygrid.org/projects_showcase/viewResearch.do

African climate research project - http://www.worldcommunitygrid.org/projects_showcase/ach/viewAchFAQ.do?shortName=ach

If you are already signed up, here is the CUCC team home (I am username "xmlhelpline", the captain of the team):

<http://www.worldcommunitygrid.org/team/viewTeamInfo.do?teamId=W269XM8DQS1>

If you sign up, you can simply search for the team "CUCC" and join. We can watch our contribution to this and other projects grow!

Submitted by **Paul Kiel**

DAY-TO-DAY CONTACTS AT CUCC

Pastor: Rev. Steve Halsted
Office Manager: Carol Clark
(Office hours: 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., Monday-Friday)
Moderator: Diana Koenning
Treasurer: Mary Pruneau
Asst. Treasurer: Carol Kepler
Clerk: Pam Thompson

Ministry Chairs:
Deacons: Robert Parrish
Stewardship: Fawn Pattison
Property: Bayard Alcorn and Joan McAllister
Religious Education: Marty Lamb
Social Justice: Gary Smith
Community Outreach: vacant
Welcoming, Fellowship & Growth: vacant

Organist: Doug Barrick
Choir Director: Anne Moorman-Smith

Community United Church of Christ
814 Dixie Trail
Raleigh, NC 27607
February 2008 Newsletter

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The deadline for our March Newsletter is
February 18th.

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

A Month of Sundays

February 3 | Last
Sunday after
Epiphany
**9:00 – 9:30 Taizé;
9:15 Adult Forum &
Bible Study; 10:30
Worship (with
Communion) &
Church School;
Fellowship Time
Lectionary:**
Ex 24:12-18; Ps 2 or
Ps 99; 2 Pet 1:16-21;
Matt 17:1-9

February 10 | First
Sunday in Lent |
**9:00 – 9:30 Taizé;
9:15 Adult Forum &
Bible Study; 10:30
Worship Service
(Robert Parrish
preaching) &
Church School;
Fellowship Time
Lectionary:**
Gen 2:15-17; 3:1-7;
Ps 32; Rom 5:12-19;
Matt 4:1-11

February 17 | Second
Sunday in Lent |
**9:00 Taizé with
Communion; 9:15
Adult Forum &
Bible Study; 10:30
Worship (Steve
Camp preaching) &
Church School;
Fellowship Time
Lectionary:**
Gen 12:1-4a; Ps 121;
Rom 4:1-5, 13-17;
John 3:1-17 or
Matt 17:1-9

February 24 | Third
Sunday in Lent |
**9:00 – 9:30 Taizé;
9:15 Adult Forum &
Bible Study; 10:30
Worship Service
(Hunter Thompson
preaching) &
Church School;
Fellowship Time;
Lectionary:**
Ex 17:1-7; Ps 95;
Rom 5:1-11;
John 4:5-42