

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working For Social Justice

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June 2006

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
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**Summer Newsletter Schedule: June, July/August combined.
The July/August Newsletter will be mailed July 19
September resumes the regular schedule**

A Word from our Pastor

Dear Friends,

Sunday, June 4th, is a very special day in the life of our congregation. It will be a day of great celebrations!

A day to celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of Christianity! A day to celebrate the two universal sacraments within Christianity: Baptism and Holy Communion!

A day to celebrate the confirmation of three of our young adults as they promise in covenant to become faithful members of the Church of Jesus Christ (universal) and full members of Community United Church of Christ in Raleigh! The three are **Angelina DeVito, Anna Roach-Howell and Abby Smith.**

For the past two years they have been in a preparatory Confirmation Class led by **Sue Rogge**. They have learned and grown through study, discussion, worship, a mission trip to D.C., ministry projects through our church and fellowship activities. They are now ready for this next step of faith commitment in their spiritual pilgrimage. It is an important and formative day for them and I invite everyone to come and support and celebrate this day. It will be a day to be remembered!

Since Angelina and Anna have not yet been baptized, they will be, that day, prior to their Confirmation Rite. Each of the girls will share a Confirmation paper – a statement of their faith that will continue to grow and mature as young Christians, following the way of Jesus.

After worship the celebration will continue in the fellowship hall. The Deacons will make it a festive occasion, so come ready to enjoy a party!

Hope to see you on Sunday June 4.

Blessings and Peace,

Steve

Church Council

Council met May 15. Treasurer Pruneau advised that CUCC has received 85% of the Helen Brown bequest ; our finances are healthy and pledges are being received in timely fashion. Community Outreach reported that One Great Hour of Sharing congregational gift responses totaled \$2893.35. Property Ministry declared the April workday a success; another will be scheduled for the fall. The Deacons are planning for the June 4 Pentecost celebration and for worship services during Pastor Steve's vacation time in July. Council discussed plans for the June 11 congregational meeting.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JUNE 11

The meeting will follow 10:30 worship service in the Vaughan Fellowship Hall. The agenda includes reports from the Ministries and discussion, especially focusing on CUCC's relationship with RICH Park.

Deacons

The Deacons met May 11 and discussed, among other topics, worship plans for Pentecost Sunday, June 4, when Angelina DeVito, Anna Roach-Howell, and Abby Smith will be confirmed.

The congregation is encouraged to use nametags for the June 4 celebration. Carol Clark will assure that nametags are available for everyone. Please wear yours!

Responsibility for recruiting scripture readers and children's story presenters was established for the rest of the year: August, Bill Lamb; September, Mary Matthews; October,

Peg Hulslander; November, Ann McLaughlin; and December, Marty Lamb.

The Ushers will be recruiting people to act as greeters for visitors.

Rev. Clay Stalnaker will be preaching on June 25. During Pastor Steve's vacation, Ann McLaughlin and Sue Rogge will be guest preachers on July 16 and 23. It is time for the annual CUCC staff evaluation for which the Deacons are

responsible. The process is under way. The choir will sing on 1st Sundays this summer. The next Deacons Ministry meeting will be June 15.

Art Wall

The inspirational paintings on the Art Wall are the work of Kiki Farish, sister of Ellen Beidler.

Stewardship

The CUCC Auction was held May 20th with 26 bidders either present or with proxies. There were 57 items in the auction catalog, bringing in a total of >\$3700 so far. The 1993 Ford Escort station wagon is still available, as are some "places" for lunches and game times. If you were unable to attend but are interested in some of the items that were included in the catalog, there's still a chance. If they are still available, you can get in on the action (at the rate sold).

For info, check with **Carol Clark**.

Religious Education

Church School

Summer Sunday School kicks off on June 11. During our summer schedule the children will be learning that "kids make a difference." We will learn about children in the Bible as well as children today, and the ways they make a difference. We will also explore the ways we can make a difference this summer!



This is the wonderful mandala made by the Church School youth during Lent.

It's FAITH TO FOCUS time again!

Members and friends of CUCC are invited to attend a brief information session on **June 18** about this fall's Faith to Focus offering. We are the Body of Christ. Each of us knows our gifts and have claimed our ministry/calling – right? Or, do you need some focused time to discern exactly where your greatest bliss and the world's greatest needs do come together? God is still speaking! The orientation will last about 45 minutes and will be led by **Mac Hulslander** and **Marty Lamb** in the Bradow Room **10 minutes following worship**. Come See!

"The One who calls you is faithful and will do this."
II Thes. 5:24

Adult Forum will **not** meet in June, July or August. See you in September!

Sunday Bible Study will be meeting during June, July and August. We will be reading and discussing Marcus Borg's book, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*. We meet in the Bradow Room at 9:15 and we will continue to study Isaiah in May. Everyone is welcome! For more information, call **Pat Spearman**, 781-0041.

Wednesday Bible Study

The 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 and is now studying Thomas Friedman's "The World is Flat" until the beginning of June. We have not yet decided on the next book, but will meet this summer. Check the bulletin for our choice!

Contact: **Ed Klemmer**, 847-7992.

Monday Lunch Group

Bring lunch and join us in the Hoffmann Room Mondays at 12:15 p.m. In June Sue Cottle will lead the group as we read and discuss the book *Plan B* by Anne Lamott.

Welcome, Fellowship & Growth

First-Sunday Fellowship

As noted above, we will celebrate and party at a

Pentecost Party, June 4

and there will be our now-traditional
**Annual Watermelon-cutting,
seed-spitting contest,
and hot dog feast
on July 2**

in the courtyard.

Sisters in Spirit

SIS is still into spontaneous outings. In May, we took Steve Halsted's recommendation and took in "American Dreamz" (w/ Hugh Grant and Dennis Quaid in the Simon Cowell and George Bush roles), followed by Ben & Jerry's ice cream. If you are interested in being contacted or in contacting SIS folk for "spur of the moment" activities, call or send an email to **Vandy Bradow** (ybradow@aol.com).

Retirees Fellowship Recesses for Summer

Retired folks will **not** meet in June, July and August. The group will reconvene on the 2nd Monday in September at 10:30 a.m.

Property

Memorial/Meditation Garden Volunteers

Would you like to help "groom and maintain" the garden? Please contact one of the following who have volunteered their time for a month:

June – **Binks Mew**

July – **Carol Clark**

Chores include: keeping weeds pulled, dead branches picked up, leaves raked, checking status of plants, and watering as needed.

Please contact **Carol Kepler** if you can help.



Energy Matters

Each month your Property Committee will be publishing a new column called “Energy Matters” as a part of an ongoing campaign to reduce energy use here at CUCC. We hope that you will find the information helpful at home as well!

The hot months are upon us, so it is time to be particularly conscientious about our energy usage at CUCC. We will be posting charts to show the comparison of energy use and costs for June, July and August to help all of us to be more aware.

Energy tips for the month:

- Replace the 4 most-used 100 watt light bulbs in your home with 23 watt compact fluorescent bulbs. You will save over \$108 over the next 3 years. If every household in the US did this, we could save the amount of power generated annually by 30 electric power plants!
- If you ain’t using it, turn it off! Lights, your computer, the TV, your air conditioner....
- Get and use a programmable thermostat for your heating/cooling system and set it so that it uses less power when you are away.
- Set your thermostat at the highest temperature at which you can be comfortable. Then adjust it upward as you adjust to the temperature.
- Clean your ac/furnace filters monthly.
- Keep your shades closed during the day when you are away to cut down on solar heating.
- Cut off your electric stove the last minute or so before something finishes cooking. The burner or oven will still be hot enough to finish the cooking without using electricity. This doesn’t work too well with gas stoves!!
- Use ceiling or floor fans to assist cooling rather than cranking down your AC.

We need your help to be a CUCC energy miser! Please be alert to lights left on unnecessarily, air conditioners running too cool, windows left open, and so on. This month a hose was left running unattended, which will show up on the water bill.

We have also had some damage to the little tree beside the back entry to the Sunday School wing, as well as scars in the ceiling of the Vaughan wing room, apparently due to a misused paint roller extender. This is your church. Please be respectful of the property of CUCC and supervise children who don’t know better.

Thanks!!

Joan McAllister, Co-chair Property Ministry

Social Justice

Labor relations have jumped front and center in the past week at CUCC. On Thursday, May 25, a handful of church members met with pastors Hegler and Holland, representing the national United Church of Christ as well as labor organizer Libby Manley from Food and Commercial Workers’ Union. These three spelled out alleged management abuse of laborers at the Smithfield Pork Packing Plant in Tarheel, NC. On Sunday, May 28, the Forum sponsored a presentation by Dennis Pittman, head of Human Resources for the Smithfield operation in Tarheel. Approximately 40 people attended the Forum presentation. If the Smithfield representative is from Venus, then surely the labor sympathizers are from Mars. because the respective perceptions on the plant, its operations, and effect on labor could not have been more different.

The Social Justice Ministry has taken no formal position on the matter at this time, although a rough, informal consensus indicates the desire to visit the Tarheel plant to see for themselves what things are like there. Mr. Pittman extended an invitation and stated Smithfield would provide a lunch. If any member or friend of CUCC is interested in taking such a trip, please notify John Little by phone at 781-0829 or by email at jlittle17@nc.rr.com.

Our People

Prayer Requests

Please write your prayer requests on a slip of paper and place in the offering plate or in one of the prayer jars (Narthex or in Pilgrim House.) Our prayers are solicited for **Jo Lemons, Jo Banks, Al Matthews, Ruby Lamb, Ed Zschau, Millie & Americo Scapicchio, Willie Foggie’s wife, Nelda, Al Matthews’ mother, Mildred, Elvah Mansky Lee, Lisa Leiser-Banks’ uncle, Bill Pamplin,**

Vandy Bradow's parents, Ida and Roy Klages, Lisa Marsh, Kerma Hazel, Mamie Scott, Ted Gregory and the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo and other victims of war and natural disaster across the globe.

Fernand Milandu reports that his wife **Lina** went to Africa from April 2-26, owing to the death of her brother there. Her brother was the sole support of a family of 7. She found things to be worse than when they left (social decline). They hope that things will improve after an upcoming election. The church there is growing and building a new facility.

Carol Tosczak writes that she loves getting the newsletter to keep up with what is going on here. She visits NC for her semi-annual dental appointments so she can have specific times to come to the area and visit her stepchildren and their families. She has spent some time in IL with her siblings and has been taking her cat (18 and very dependent) along as she travels. She wishes to be remembered to one and all at CUCC. (Carol Clark has complete text – email if you wish to receive it).

Congratulations!

Andrew Ledbetter graduated from East Carolina University May 6 with a B.A. degree in English. He is pursuing a career in writing and editing.

Proud grandmother **Marge Eckels** reports that grandson Damian Manda, 18 and a senior at Poudre HS in Ft. Collins, CO, has won first place in the "Remote Sensing" category of the national Science Olympiad competition in Indianapolis, IN. He also placed 4th in "Compute This," 5th in "Practical Problem Solving," and 12th in "Physics Lab." Damian will enter the U. of Colorado at Boulder and plans a concentration in meteorology.

Lena Gallitano identified over 200 species of birds on her trip to Bhutan, which she describes as a beautiful and friendly country. Welcome back!

Concern

Our thoughts are with Dawn Pickett, who has sprained BOTH ankles and is understandably very limited in her mobility these days!



Our Young Peoples' Birthdays

6/1/2000 – Cammy Riemann
6/4/97 – Isaac Milandu
6/5/99 – Anna Johnson
6/5/99 – Elizabeth Johnson
6/12/93 – Angelina DeVito
6/13/95 – Carson Roach-Howell
6/21/00 – Henry Goering
6/24/95 – Jonny Cookmeyer
6/27/97 – Colleen Barrick
6/30/97 – Ernesto Rivera-Saavedra
7/2/01 – Greer Eckard
7/16/01 – Teresa Eiselt
7/26/90 – Jessica Davis
7/30/04 – Franziska Eiselt

Linda Baker, Vandy Bradow and friend Clare, Geraldine Bryan, Carol Clark, Shannon Core, Sue Cottle and friend Susan, Marge Eckels, Mary Pruneau, Judy Smallwood, and Edith Sylla almost filled a car on the "Piedmont" Amtrak train to Charlotte to attend the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Discovery Place museum. Seeing the care and effort made to preserve and present these fragments was mind-boggling as was viewing the artifacts of the nearby village of Qumram (and its model). The IMAX viewing of "Mystery of the Nile" took us in one afternoon on a wild adventurous 3,260-mile journey down the Blue Nile and Nile river, traversing three countries in some of the world's remotest regions. Deadly crocodiles and hippos, the world's most dangerous whitewater rapids, gunfire from bandits, malaria, and temperatures topping 120°F were just some of the obstacles "we" faced.

There was just time for lunch at a sidewalk café and a gallery stroll before returning to Amtrak.

Carol Clark, for the wayfarers

CUCC Directory

change: Dawn Pickett
133 Marlon Drive, Chapel Hill 27517
Phone 929-8965

Community Outreach

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR



It is important to remember that during the summer months, eligible children do not have access to free school lunches. This puts a greater burden on families where shortage of food is chronic. To meet this need, please keep your contributions each first Sunday of the month. This month we will collect and deliver them on **June 4**. The first Sunday in July is **July 2**. Thanks for your faithfulness.

Volunteer opportunity

During the summer months, the **Meals on Wheels** office often needs substitute delivery help to replace the regular volunteers who go on summer vacation.

In addition, our church is responsible for delivering 3 regular routes consisting of about 8-12 meals per route on the second Wednesday of the month.

Usually we go as a pair, pick up the meals anytime after 11:00 am and finish a route within an hour. If you are available and interested in helping occasionally, please call **Carol Kepler** for additional information (787-7420).

One Great Hour of Sharing

Once the fish banks were collected and the coins counted (thanks to the Credit Union's coin counter) and all of the envelopes were opened and counted, CUCC contributed \$2893.35 to our mission of helping Haiti, Indonesia, and Sudan, three countries whose people desperately need our help.

Wider Community

Your back yard may qualify for a special conservation program! In celebration of the National Wildlife Federation's 70th birthday this year, the Wildlife Backyard Habitat program has set a goal to certify its 70,000th site! Do you provide food, water, shelter, and a place to raise young? Do

you employ sustainable gardening practices? If so, or if you're not sure, go online to www.nwf.org for a registration form, or write National Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1583, Merrifield, VA 22116-1583. Questions? Call 1-800-822-9919 or ask a local Backyard Wildlife Habitat "landlord"—
like me— **Vandy Bradow**

Did you know that neon colored paper (lime, yellow, pink etc.) can NOT be recycled. If recycling contains the neon paper, the buyer of recycled paper will refuse the entire batch. For more information, call Raleigh Recycling at 831-6522.

Wider Church

The Southern Conference Annual Meeting will be held at Catawba College on June 8-10. The theme of the meeting this year will be "**Live The Vision: Engage in ... Restoring of Faith, Creating New Communities of Faith, and Faithful Mission!**" **Steve Halsted, Ann McLaughlin, and Vandy Bradow** will be attending. It's not too late to be a day-tripper participant. Call the office for info.

UCC National Music Conference in Chapel Hill

"God is Still Singing Through All Our Songs" - the UCC's national music conference will be held at Chapel Hill UCC August 4-7. Would you be interested in attending this event with others from CUCC? The keynote speaker will be Marty Haugen; we sing many of his songs. There are also a variety of workshops. For more information, see <http://www.ucc.org/musicarts/event06.pdf>. This three-day conference will cost \$150 (includes two lunches and dinners) for those who don't need lodging. Call **Jane Smith** if you are interested.

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: Vandy Bradow

Treasurer: Mary Pruneau

Asst. Treasurer: Carol Kepler

Clerk: Mary Pickering

Ministry Chairs:

Deacons: Jo Perry

Welcoming, Fellowship, and Growth: We need a chair for this Ministry!

Stewardship: Bill Bryan

Property: Allan Beidler and Joan McAllister

Religious Education: Sue Cottle

Social Justice: John Little

Community Outreach: June Bolton

Organist: Doug Barrick

Choir Director: Anne Moorman-Smith

A Month and one half of Sundays

June 4 – Pentecost Sunday & Confirmation Sunday

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service with Communion & Church School; Pentecost Party

Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezek 37:1-14; Ps 104:24-34, 35b; Rom 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

June 11 – Trinity Sunday

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Lectionary: Isa 6:1-8; Ps 29; Rom 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

June 18 – Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé with Communion; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time

Lectionary: 1 Sam 15:34-16:13; Ps 20 or Ezek 17:17:22-24; Ps 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Cor 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

June 25 – Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service with Clay Stalnaker as guest minister; Church School; Fellowship Time

Lectionary: 1 Sam 17(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49; Ps 9:9-20 or 1 Sam 17:57-18:5, 10-16; Ps 133 or Job 38:1-11; Ps 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Cor 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

July 2 – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time

Lectionary: 2 Sam 1:1, 17-27; Ps 130 or Wisd of Sol 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Lam 3:23-33 or Ps 30; 2 Cor 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

July 9 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time

Lectionary: 2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10; Ps 48 or Ezek 2:1-5; Ps 123; 2 Cor 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

July 16 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 10:30 Worship Service with Sue Rogge preaching & Church School; Fellowship Time

Lectionary: 2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19; Ps 24 or Am 7:7-15; Ps 85:8-13; Eph 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

Save an “odd” page for the calendar

Community United Church of Christ
814 Dixie Trail
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June 2006 Newsletter

Non-Profit
Organization
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The deadline for our **July/August** Newsletter is
July 3rd.

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