

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working for Social Justice

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Stephen S. Halsted, Pastor

May 2002

Lectionary for May

May 5, Sixth Sunday of Easter:

Acts 17:21-31; Ps. 66:8-20 I Pet. 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

May 12, Seventh Sunday of Easter:

Acts 1:6-14; Ps. 68:1-10, 32-35; I Pet. 4:12-14; 5:6-11;
John 17:1-11

May 19, Pentecost Sunday:

Acts 2:1-21; Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; John 20:19-23

May 26, Trinity Sunday:

Gen. 1:1-2:4a; Ps. 8; 2 Cor. 13:11-13; Matt. 28:16-20

Dear Friends,

One of the great things that I am beginning to appreciate about CUCC is its "Openness" to welcoming in a wide variety of outside groups and organizations to use our facility as a meeting place. Diverse groups such as Carolina Adoptions, Triangle Community Works, Services for the Blind, Interfaith Alliance and others find a welcome environment here to help carry out their mission. Our Office Manager, Carol Clark, and our Building and Grounds Committee, chaired by Mark Denlinger, work hard to make this all happen smoothly (avoiding double bookings) and being good stewards over the use of our facility.

Recently, we realized a need to update and clarify our building use policy. It was recognized that a lot of "wear and tear" on our facility and equipment has occurred and that current rental rates are not adequate to cover these expenses. To this end we are raising rates modestly and trying to monitor building use so as not to waste energy (lighting, heating and cooling) in order to be more intentional in our stewardship of resources.

All members of our congregation can help in this regard. It takes just a moment to make sure all lights are switched off, that windows are closed and doors closed and locked before leaving the facilities. An easy solution to accomplishing these things is for each Board or Committee to designate a lock up and check out person. Please also monitor heating and cooling thermostats if you have changed the setting

for your meeting. Recently after a cool night (after our hot spell) we walked into Pilgrim house in the morning to stifling heat that had been left on all night at 85 degrees. Designating someone to monitor the thermostat after the meeting would have prevented this waste of heat and its unnecessary expense. I know we all want to prevent this type of circumstance from happening and it takes all of us working together to be good stewards of our church.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 12, which is both celebrated as Festival of the Christian Home and Mother's Day. The children and youth of our congregation will be taking on leadership roles in worship that day. Please come and support their efforts as they grow in their faith.

Ruach-Shalom,

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

CUCC AUCTION

A HUGE SUCCESS!!!

\$5,000+++!

Special thanks go to the hard-working committee: Anne Pope, Vandy Bradow, Lisa and Richard Leiser-Banks as well as those who assisted in different ways: Scottie Bell, Marge Eckels, Z.B. Haslip, Mac Hulslander and Lavon Page. Also, thanks to all those who came and especially to those who so generously participated in bidding on their favorites, and those who donated items.

Those whose email addresses we have will receive a copy of the results; the same list will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the successful bidders to contact the donors to arrange for delivery of the goods or services. Purchases not claimed will expire at the end of the year.

In May, the Monday Lunch Group will feature “open mike” sessions. Topics discussed will be drawn randomly from written suggestions brought to the group. Bring a sandwich & join us for lunch at 12:15, discussion 12:45-1:45.

May 12: Worship Celebration!!!

On this special Sunday, our children and youth will be helping lead worship as we celebrate the Festival of the Christian Home and Mother’s Day. Please plan to attend and show your support to our young people. To further celebrate the day, please join others in the Vaughan Wing for a soup lunch and fellowship.

ASP Trip

Support our ASP Trip – Buy a Picnic Table!

Our ASP trip is set for the week of June 9th in Tazewell County, VA. The ASP team will be doing several fundraisers in the next 2 months. We will be selling ASP stock after Sunday Services in May and we also plan to have a bake sale after church (probably during May). We will also be continuing the tradition of building picnic tables to serve as construction practice and to raise money for our trip. We will be selling the picnic tables for \$175. Please call Mark Denlinger at 847-5131 if you’d like to buy one. The picnic table in the playground area at church was built by last year’s ASP team and this year’s design will be the same. All the wood is treated and all joints use either bolts or screws (no nails!) for a lifetime of service.

CUCC Retirees Group

Want to take a safe journey to the Eastern Mediterranean & Egypt? Come join the retirees on Monday, May 13th at 11:00 am as Mary & Al Matthews share their trip to that area. Bring a sandwich – dessert & beverage are provided. Visitors always welcome.

Women’s Support Group Potluck will be 6:30 pm May 23rd, in the Hoffmann Room. Call Sally Cook 467-3642.

CUCC Sunday School Calendar:

May 5: Thinking and Doing
May 12: Children lead worship
May 19: Science
May 26: Service

Summer church school Program starts June 2.

Senior High Bible Study

Sarah McGiverin continues to lead an hour-long Bible study in the Bradow room each Monday beginning at 4:00 pm.

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).

Loaves and Fishes

YARD SALE

Sponsored by Loaves & Fishes

Saturday, June 15 7 am - noon

Start gathering your donations now for the Loaves and Fishes yard sale, Saturday, June 15. It will be held in the Vaughan Wing from 7:00 am until 12:00 noon. We'll be receiving and sorting donations on Friday, June 14.

Arts in Worship

God bless the artists and keep them safe,
Praise the creator and those who create,
Touch the senses, strike the chord,
Sound the trumpet, praise the Lord.
Guide the potter's mystic touch
The painter's brush, the actor's heart,
"Dance the steps" to magic music
Grace the motion, move the spirit,
Guard the artists' cosmic gifts
May they proclaim
God's great creation.

--Priscilla Dewey Houghton

Since King David wrote his psalms (and probably long before then), God's people have used the arts to praise God and express their deepest longings for God. The **Arts In Worship Committee** wants to encourage CUCC members to join in the continual "Arts Festival" our shared life of worship can be. Please consider the following opportunities for you to awaken--and share--the spirit of the artist within:

The Artist's Wall: The wall facing the Hoffman and Bradow rooms is our artist's wall. If you have visual art works you'd like to share with the congregation, Karen Haley (833-0092) would love to hear from you.

Liturgical Dance: Contact Marty Lamb (834-4280) if you have an interest in exploring liturgical dance as a means of expressing your spirituality.

Concert fundraiser: Pastor Steve Halsted is interested in developing the idea of a concert of CUCC musicians to raise money for a new organ. If you have ideas or talents you'd like to share, please let him know.

The next meeting of the Arts in Worship committee is May 28th, 6 pm. We'd love to have your ideas and expressions of interest by then!

The art of **Kike Farish** (Ellen Beidler's sister) is currently on display on the Artist's Wall. Stop by and delight in the imagery.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

Adult Education Committee

Adult Forum

May 5 Dr. Ed Klemmer will share his ideas on "What a Just Peace Church Should be About."

Caring Committee

Nametags – The Caring Committee is making some changes to procedures around our nametags. Judy Smith has volunteered to make a cover for an additional hanger so we can have more name tags available and they will be more spread out, so it should be easier to find. Bill Lamb is still in charge of making nametags, so if you want one, or you need a new one, let him know. Nametags can also be made in the church office so if you don't see Bill, you can leave a note on the Caring Community roll and the office can make you one. New nametags and stick on tags will be put out on a table in the narthex next to the hangers. Please remember to have your nametags with you and wear them when you go the Vaughan Wing after the service. That's when folks really do have a chance to make connections.

Eckel's 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

Looking Ahead

The Communications Committee wishes you to be aware of the dates for photographing families for the new pictorial directory. Dates are October 30, November 1 and 2. We are skipping October 31. These dates assure time to have any pictures purchased back in time for Christmas giving.

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

Appalachian Service Project

The ASP is scheduled for the week of June 9th with fundraisers and meetings. If you would like to participate and haven't signed up, contact Mark Denlinger, 847-5131. More information as the date approaches.

Our People

Congratulations to **Cy King!** He was presented the 1st annual Peacemaker Award April 25th, honoring his (and Carolyn's) long-term commitment to the cause of peace.

SPECIAL DAYS

Youth Birthdays

May Birthdays*

- 5/8/86 – Reagan Binganisi-Matuzola
- 5/11/90 – Jospin Milandu
- 5/19/88 – Christian Binganisi-Matuzola

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

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 May 30 if you would like to receive it.

Names (please print) _____
 Address _____
 _____ Zip _____

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814 Dixie Trail
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May 2002 Newsletter

**June Newsletter Deadline is Monday,
May 20th.**

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

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