

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working For Social Justice

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October 2004

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 the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Our religious faith, the Bible, and the arts are inherently and historically linked. Visual arts down through the ages have been a key tool in transmitting the stories, values and truth of religious faith from one generation to the next.

Great works like Rembrandt's "The Prodigal Son", Ruben's "The Adoration of the Magi" and Van Gogh's "The Good Samaritan" can move us with emotions that are important beyond words in our quest to experience the divine spirit, and to find peace and meaning in the world.

In today's world, we are fortunate to have access to wonderful works of art both through museum and galleries as well as a proliferation of high quality art books.

Our church library has just received a generous donation of beautiful art and theological books from our friend, Betty Watson. She is breaking up her own extensive home library due to an upcoming move. Betty and her husband, R.D., will share a duplex with their daughter, Jessica, and her family here in Raleigh. We thank Betty for these gifts and hope that you will stop to visit the church library soon and enjoy them.

Another opportunity to experience religious arts is coming your way on Sunday, October 17, from 3-5 p.m. The event is a "Festival of the Arts" sponsored by The Interfaith Alliance of Wake County. I have

been involved in helping out with the festival and can assure you that it will be great! This year the festival will feature both performing and visual arts. Several of my pieces of religious art will be on display, along with art works from Judaism, Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism. Our Congolese group, the Apostolic Voice, will join other performing artists for a concert of music and dance. The festival will be held at the Thompson Theatre on the campus of NCSU. Hope you can attend!

Blessings and peace,

Steve



Church Council

All ministry budget proposals for 2005 need to be turned in to Carol at the church office no later than 1:00 p.m. Monday, October 18. The next Council meeting will be that evening at 7:00 p.m. Remember

**Eastern North Carolina Association's
annual meeting October 8-9
and the**

**Congregational Meeting
October 31, 2004**

**--Karen Haley, Moderator
Deacons**

Staff Evaluations

The annual performance evaluation of the church staff is now under way. Input from church members will be welcome; call any Deacon.

Welcoming Newcomers

The Deacons are presently working on providing a meaningful ritual for persons joining the church. Any comments or suggestions will be appreciated prior to our October 6 meeting.

Arts in Worship

A big "Thank you!" to **Anna** and **Carson Roach-Howell** for their artwork appearing on our Art Wall.

--Peg Hulslander, Chair

Religious Education

6th/7th Grade Youth Group Schedule

- Week of October 4 (one day after school): Mystery field trip and meeting
- Sunday, October 24, after worship: Russian Tea party
- Sunday, November 14, 10:30 - 4:00: Staff the Marketplace Cafe and sell Russian Tea
- Sunday, November 21: Mystery volunteering & meeting
- Saturday, December 4, afternoon: Advent party
- Saturday, December 18, 9:00-1:00: Cook and serve Habitat crew meal

Napkins and the Earth

The children would like to thank all of those adults who joined them in contributing to the cost of a set of forest green napkins for our use at Community festivities. The napkins were dedicated at worship on September 19. About half of the money came from contributions and the other half from the Church School Service Project Fund. The children also thank Mr. Woody Stearns of Glenaire who advised them on the best napkins to buy and who made the purchase for us.

Families and the CROP Walk

Is anyone interested in walking with other CUCC families in the CROP walk on Sunday, October 3? Children have more fun exploring Raleigh on foot when walking (or wagon riding) with a friend. You don't have to walk the whole route. Tell **Jane Smith** if you are considering it. She'll let you know who else in your age group is walking so that you can contact one another. Have your children ask Jane for a contribution (she's a soft touch). Don't forget to sign up! The church school collection from September 19 and 26, as well as for October 3, 10, and 17, will go to the CROP walk. The children will be studying Joseph, who saved many people in Egypt (including his family) from a great famine.

Yard Sale Success

Abby, Angelina, Anna, Elena, Glodie and **Riyah** thank the adults and children who donated items for their yard sale. They had fun and made over \$230.00 toward the cost of the youth group's advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. next summer. The next fundraiser will be their renowned **Russian Tea**, on sale at the Marketplace of Meaningful Gifts café Sunday, November 14.

Adult Forum - meets Sundays at 9:15 -10:15 a.m. in Vaughan Fellowship Hall. The **October theme** is: "The Influence of Corporations on American Life: Perhaps Some Good, Perhaps Some Bad."

October Forum Schedule

October 3 – Chris Fitzsimon will provide an overview on this topic from his perspective. Chris has spoken several times and is always most interesting and provocative.

October 10 – A video of Jim Hightower's "The Kleptocrats Have Taken Over." Hightower is a very engaging speaker with a populist perspective.

October 17 – Dr. Robert I. Bruck, Professor of Plant Pathology and Forestry and Special Assistant to NCSU Vice Chancellor for Research will assess the influence of corporations on the University.

October 24 and 31 -To be announced

Monday Lunch Group - meets in the Hoffmann Room Mondays at 12:15 p.m. The group continues into October with its discussions related to themes in the biography of Ella Baker. Call **Geraldine Bryan** for more information.

CUCC IS SITE OF HISTORY-MAKING AGREEMENT

MT.OLIVE PICKLE BOYCOTT ENDS!

After five years of a public action boycott by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO (FLOC), it reached a precedent-setting agreement with the North Carolina Grower's Association (NCGA) and the Mount Olive Pickle Company.

On September 16, a press conference and ceremonial signing was held at Community UCC in a packed Vaughan Fellowship Hall. With the signing, over 8,000 "guest" workers will become the first such workers in the history of the United States to win union representation and a contract. It will be the largest union contract in North Carolina's history. The international component of the contract signed on Thursday will allow the union to oversee the employment of over 8000 workers from most Mexican States who will come to work in North Carolina with H2 visas through the U.S. Department of Labor. The standards set by this agreement are significant because of the agricultural industry's almost exclusive use of undocumented workers. The agreement will cover over 1000 North Carolina farms...this agreement covers a broad range of crops throughout the entire state from the late days of February to the harvest of the last Christmas trees in November.

FLOC President, Baldemar Velasquez stated, "This agreement will set an important standard to the rest of the agricultural industry. Everyone else almost exclusively utilizes undocumented workers and the conditions of those workers are tragic and shameful."

The above text was excerpted from the FLOC press release distributed to the press and others at the contract signing. The full packet is available at the church office, and the press release is on CUCC's bulletin board.

CONGRATULATIONS to FLOC and to all those who supported the boycott over these past five years!

Social Justice, Continued

On Wednesday, September 8, **Vandy Bradow** received notice from moveon.com of silent candlelight vigils for the more than 1,000 United States troops killed in Iraq through that date. The vigils were to be held across the United States the following evening at 8:00 P.M. Vandy alerted **John Little** who, in turn, officially registered as site coordinator and named CUCC as the site. John notified the CUCC congregation, as well as the faculty and staff of Saint Augustine's College, that the vigil for Raleigh would be held at our church. Others forwarded their email. Despite the short notice, approximately 100 people conducted a dignified and respectful vigil in our front yard. **Pastor Steve Halsted** provided a short talk and the benediction.

Green Power

NC GreenPower is a statewide effort to improve the environment by using electricity generated from renewable resources such as solar, wind, biomass and water. The non-profit NC GreenPower organization is the result of collaboration among electric utilities, environmentalists, state regulators and energy generators.

Your Social Justice Ministry encourages all members and friends to participate in this innovative program to improve the quality of our lives by caring for the environment. The cost is \$4.00 per month and will be automatically added to your Progress Energy bill each month. To enroll, call Progress Energy Customer Service toll-free at 1-800-452-2777. Strike a blow for justice by enrolling today!

-- **Cy King**, for Social Justice Ministry

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. For more information, contact **Mike Schafale**, 567-1098. Bring a bag supper.

Sunday Bible Study

This group meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Bradow room. Call Pat Spearman for more information, 781-0041.

Welcoming, Fellowship, and Growth

Church Picnic!

Save the date of Sunday, October 10. We have reserved Beech Shelter at Crabtree Lake for the fall church picnic. We can enjoy the area all day. We would love your ideas about what would be fun! Volleyball? Canoeing? Softball? Frisbees? Hiking? Bird watching? Forward your suggestions to **Joan McAllister** (851-9674).

Retirees Fellowship

The group will meet Monday, October 11 at 11:00 A.M. in the Vaughan fellowship hall. Our own Everette Noland will take us on a journey on "The Road to Morocco". Join us and bring your own sandwich. Dessert and drinks will be provided. No reservation is required, and you don't have to be retired in order to attend!

Saturday Men's Group

The CUCC Men's discussion group has been reading and discussing the book, *Where We Stand – Voices of Southern Dissent*, with considerable profit. In one of the essays in the book, Charles Bussey quotes Senator J. William Fulbright's book, *The Arrogance of Power*. Although the book was written in 1966, an earlier time and during a different war, it has considerable relevance for today. Some quotes are on CUCC's bulletin board.

Join the group each Saturday morning at 9:00 in CUCC's Library.

-- Cy King

Stamping for Fun and Pleasure: Thursday, October 21 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.



The Women's Support Group will have a special event on October 21, when **Joan McAllister** will bring her rubber stamps, paper and inks for a fun evening of creating cards, gift tags, bookmarks and other paper items. Joan is a beginner, but she will stretch your creative mind as you rediscover your creativity. We will meet in the Hoffmann room.

Warning: this is a highly addictive hobby!

Pre-registration for this event is required so that the correct amount of materials can be purchased. Participants are asked to contribute \$2 to help cover the costs of the supplies that will be used during the workshop.

Registration is limited to 12 persons. Contact **Sally Cook** at by October 18 to assure your slot.

Women's Beach Retreat, Sept. 10-12

Thirteen women romped, played, laughed, danced, sang, ate, joked, shopped, beach walked, swam, worked, and supported one another at the Women's Support beach retreat this year. With meals that included lasagna, oatmeal pancakes, real Greek spanikopita, shrimp, and strata, our gourmet tastes for culinary treats were satisfied. Exotic snacks filled us between meals. **Kathy Cliff** (a first timer on the beach retreat) led us in new games "Worst Case Scenario" and "Catch Phrase" ...**Marge Eckels'** tai chi and inspiring tape on women's health from Chatauqua... **Marty Lamb's** Pilates and foot massage, Scrabble, "Oh Hell" card game, book reading, a trip to the Topsail Beach book store where we met with Sue Cottle... **Margot von Harten's** CD of guitar music... wave jumping by several, beach walking by all, lengthy chats, stone/shell gathering, and occasional weather monitoring... were a part of the eclectic mix of activities for our attention. Our non-talent show on Saturday night brought us songs, poetry, readings, sharks' teeth, jokes, dance, skits, laughter, and

group discussion of our earliest memories. Our three new participants added novelty and intrigue to our longer-term friendships. We finished off the weekend with a Sunday morning religious service of peace and a marathon house clean-up before traveling home to Raleigh Sunday afternoon with our memories.

-- Marty Lamb

New Members

We welcome **Ted and Binks Mew** into our membership. Ted and Binks were high school sweethearts, growing up in Redding, Massachusetts. Ted researches groundwater issues for the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (since 1969) and Binks works for the Research Triangle Institute in the Environmental Engineering and Science Group. In 1996, Ted completed his PhD. from Duke University in civil engineering. Ted and Binks are lifelong members of the Sierra Club. Their son, Tyson, lives in Raleigh and their son, Christian, lives in Washington, D.C. In November, Ted and Binks are looking forward to the birth of their first grandchild.

Our People

We offer warmest congratulations to **Rhonda Zingraff** and Charles Thomas who were married July 17 in Richmond, Virginia. The Rev. Sallye Hardy, known to many in our congregation, officiated at the ceremony.

Maya Ione Cobeland daughter of **Autumn Cobeland** and **Charles Coble** was born September 20, 2004. Proud grandparents are **Mac and Peg Hulslander**.

Your editors recently received this **note to CUCC: Beloved friends,**

Once again you have overwhelmed me with joy and immersed me totally in your unconditional love. **What** a birthday celebration! Thank you each for all you did – incredible food, gorgeous flowers, many, many conversations and complete affirmation of me.

I am most blessed to have you for my extended family.

Love in Christ,
Jo Lemons

Congratulations to **Joan Little** upon her recent retirement from NCSU. Already CUCC is benefiting from her “extra time”. We thank Joan for sharing her creative and sewing skills with the children. Stop by the Waterfalls (K-2) classroom and see the bright window seat cushions, throw pillows and the cute chair covers. The whole room is an uplifting place to spend a Sunday morning!

Our Youth



Our Young People's Birthdays*

10/05/91 – Ferline Milandu
10/11/01 – Zenna Bryan
10/14/95 – Susie Binganisi
10/14/00 – Isaac Viadef
10/17/99 – Sophia Hase
10/21/95 – Ellen Milandu
11/08/97 – Erin Kiel
11/11/87 – Cedric Difuidi
11/29/83 – Colton Flick

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

Profile Series

Beginning this month, the *CUCC Newsletter* will have a series of profiles by **June Bolton** about the Deacons. We will begin with the Chair of Deacons, **Peg Hulslander**:

Peg was born in Cleveland, graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University with a degree in elementary education and religion. She's also a seminary graduate, having obtained a Master of Religious Education degree from Union Theological Seminary after a stay in New York City she remembers as very exciting.

Her experience in church work is extensive, to say the least! At age 21, as “Miss Peggy,” she served in the mountains of Kentucky at a Methodist mission

settlement. She was a housemother for homeless and displaced girls aged 5-20. After seminary she worked for six years as a director of Christian Education in Binghamton, NY.

It's been 36 years since she and husband, Mac, moved to Raleigh and began attending CUCC as the United Church in downtown Raleigh. Son Todd came along in 1970, and daughter Autumn was born in 1974.

Peg recalls coming to know CUCC as a "very vital and interesting church." Eventually, both the Hulslanders and the church took up their current locations and became close neighbors. After serving as staff associates at the Kirkridge Retreat Center in Bangor, PA from 1996 to 1999, they returned and have kept busy here ever since.

Her hobbies include reading, sewing, knitting, quilting, gardening, piano, and games. She also finds time to volunteer at Ten Thousand Villages and Step Up, in campaign work, as well as in addressing her own and others' spiritual needs.

As the Deacons' chair, Peg calls together and leads the monthly meetings. The spiritual side of the church is very important to her. She initiated and continues to support the weekly Taizé worship, attends Monday Lunch Group, serves on the Arts in Worship committee, and is involved in ongoing care of the Memorial/Meditation Garden. Openness to the guidance and leading of the Spirit, compassion, and simplicity are important values for Peg.

Prayers

The Monday Lunch Group offers prayers each week for those persons and needs of which they are aware. Please write requests on a slip of paper and place it on the offering plate or in one of the prayer jars at the back of the sanctuary or in Pilgrim House. Our prayers are especially solicited this month for our caretaker, **Willie Foggie**, who is recuperating 3-6 months from back surgery, and for Margot von Harten, facing surgery later this month. Please continue to remember **Jo Banks, Nancy**

Keppel, Jo Lemons, Audrey Leiser, Evelyn Littleton, Ted Mew, and R. D. Watson.

Community Outreach

Our Hunger Fund Still Needs Help!!!

Thanks to your contributions to our Hunger Fund., we were able to raise \$210.00. Additional donations Be sure to write "Hunger Fund" at the bottom your check and drop it into the Sunday collection.

--Susan Lane



Food Bags will be collected on **Sunday, October 3**, and every **first Sunday** of the month.

In September our congregation contributed **23** emergency food bags. Perhaps some of you read the News and Observer article about the dearth of supplies at Urban Ministries' food pantry and saw the pitiful picture of one can of chicken soup on an otherwise empty shelf. That was not for emotional effect; it was a true representation of the current situation. Our contribution this month was received with real relief and appreciation for our faithfulness. Be thankful for your own rich diet and each month remember those who are hungry with your contribution of an emergency food bag.

Roster

Add:

Jessica Hendricks, 3024 Calculus Lane, Raleigh, NC 27603-5967, 771-1955, riyahn92@yahoo.com.

Rebecca White, rlw7601@bellsouth.net.

Daylia Vaughan and Ernie Meunchau, emuenchau@sbcglobal.net.

Autumn Cobeland and Charles Coble, 302 Aycock St., Raleigh, N.C. 27608

Community United Church of Christ
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October 2004 Newsletter

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The deadline for our November Newsletter is
October 18th.

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

A Month of Sundays

October 3 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost — WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 9:15 Adult Forum & Bible Study; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time
Lectionary: Lam 1:1-6; Lam 3:19-26 OR Ps 137 OF Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Ps 37:1-9; 2 Tim 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10
“Neighbors in Need” Special Mission Offering – Food Bags Due

October 10 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 9:15 Adult Forum & Bible Study; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time
Lectionary: Jer 29:1, 4-7; Ps 66:1-12 OR 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Ps 111; 2 Tim 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

October 17 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

**9:00 – 9:30 Taizé with Communion; 9:15 Adult Forum & Bible Study; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School
Fellowship Time**
Lectionary: Jer 31:27-34; Ps 119:97-104 OR Gen 32:22-31; Ps 121; 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

October 24 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

9:00-9:30 Taizé; 9:15 Adult Forum & Bible Study; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time
Lectionary: Joel 2:23-32; Ps 65 OR Sir 35:12-17 OR Jer 14:7-10, 19-22; Ps 84:1-7; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

October 31 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 – 9:30 Taizé; 9:15 Adult Forum & Bible Study; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Tme
Lectionary: Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Ps 119:137-144 OR Isa 1:10-18; Ps 32:1-7; 2 Thess 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10