

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working for Social Justice

814 Dixie Trail

Raleigh, NC 27607

Phone: 919-787-6422 Fax: 919-787-2296

Office: cucc@ipass.net Pastor: pastor@communityucc.org

www.communityucc.org

Stephen S. Halsted, Pastor

September 2002

Lectionary for September

September 1st, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ex.3:1-15; Ps.105:1-6, 23-26, 45c OR Jer.15:15-21;
Ps.26:1-8; Rom.12:9-21; Mt.16:21-28.

September 8th, Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ex.12:1-14; Ps.149 OR Ezek.33:7-11; Ps.119:33-40;
Rom.13:8-14; Mt.18:15-20.

September 15th, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ex.14:19-31; Ps.114 OR Ex.15:1b-11, 20-21 or
Gn.50:15-21; Ps.103(1-7), 8-13; Rom.14:1-12;
Mt.18:21-35.

September 22nd, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ex.16:2-15; Ps.105:1-6, 37-45 OR John 3:10-4:11;
Ps.145:1-8; Phil.1:21-30; Mt.20:1-16.

September 29th, Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ex.17:1-7; Ps.78:1-4, 12-16 OR Ezek.18:1-4, 25-32;
Ps.25:1-9; Phil.2:1-13; Mt.21:23-32.

Dear Friends,

We are all painfully aware that the 1st anniversary of the *September 11, 2001, terrorist tragedies* here in America will soon be upon us. We as individuals and our nation as a whole still struggle to come to terms with our feelings of grief. We grieve for the loss of so many lives and how that impacted so many families. We grieve for the changes that these acts of terrorism have made in our nation and throughout the world. Fear and anger is mixed with emotions of sadness, depression and yearnings for peace. Grieving brings us in touch with all these emotions.

Tim Strauman, chairman of Duke University's psychology department says, "People need to find a way to acknowledge, whether personal loss or national tragedy, something meaningful has changed in their lives." The key, he said, is to gain perspective with each passing anniversary. It's normal to feel sad, but it's important to have some

distance from it as time goes on. He suggests parents use the anniversary of Sept. 11 to talk to their children, who may not be as afraid now, about what has changed since last year's attack and how it has affected our world. A healthy sign of grieving, he said, is to acknowledge that we lost something that day. Each person will observe it in his or her own way. Set aside time to think, talk to family or, if you're feeling lost, see a professional, he suggested.*

To commemorate 9/11 here in Raleigh, the Interfaith Alliance of Wake County, which meets regularly at our church, is offering a Service of Remembrance at the Exploris Museum on Wednesday, September 11, 2002, at 6:00 pm. There will be readings, prayers, and music from the major faith traditions of the world. Our friend, Ghazala Sadiq, from the Islamic Center will speak about the "Impact on the World" and I have been asked to speak about "Our Human Interconnectedness and Reconciliation". This event is free and open to the whole community.

May we all continue to pray for peaceful solutions in our violent-terrorist stricken world.

In the Spirit of Shalom,

Pastor Steve



* *The News & Observer* 8/27/02

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 Sarah Hoffman as she continues to cope with cancer.

Our condolences are extended to Deesse and Dominique Difuidi and their children Cedric, Glodie, and Gloria upon the death of little Alisha Nzolani Difuidi. She was born on August 14, 2002, and passed on to the eternal realm on August 21, 2002. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on Saturday August 24th. Our prayers for healing are extended to the family at this time of sorrow and grieving.

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

Retirees

Summer's almost gone, and CUCC Retired Folks will be resuming regular monthly gatherings on Monday, Sept. 9th. The guest speaker will be Betty Weiser, whose topic will be Health and Aging - a subject of interest to all of us regardless of age. Betty represents the North Carolina Council on Aging. Meeting time is 11am, and everyone is welcome, retired or not. Come, bring a sandwich, and enjoy the gathering. Dessert and drinks are furnished.

Women's Support Group –The women's beach retreat is scheduled for Sept.13th through 15th at

Surf City. Those who have signed up to attend and are interested in helping with supper Friday night may call Judy Smallwood to coordinate, and those who wish to help with Saturday morning brunch are encouraged to call Marge Eckels to coordinate. Othees are asked to just bring their favorite nibbles (the healthier the better) to share at other times in the weekend. An e-mail is going out soon of the final agenda and for participants to self-select themselves in organizing carpools."

Meeting nights – Currently scheduled to meet on the 4th Thursday night of each month. Starting on Thursday night, October 17th, meetings will be on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Bradow Room.

Monday Lunch Group

On September 9th, The Monday Lunch Group will be starting a new book, Theology for Skeptics, Reflections on God by Dorothee Soelle.

Come join
Church Women United
Raleigh/Wake County Unit
presents a forum
“Elephants in the Court Room”
Profiling within the legal system

Friday, September 6, 2002
9:30 am – 11:00 am
St. Paul AME Church
402 W. Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Bring Bread

October 6th is World Communion Sunday and everyone is invited to bring bread for a delightful lunch after church of breads from around the world. Let us break bread together in a celebration of this special Sunday.

Just imagine, a big slab of delicious bread spread with butter or cheese – yum yum!

BOARD OF DEACONS

Deacons: The September meeting is changed from September 4th to September 5th, at 7:00 pm in the Pilgrim House.

Future meetings will be in the Pilgrim House at 7:00 pm: October 9th, November 6th, and December 4th.

CHURCH COUNCIL

News

Congregational Meeting – September 28th, 9:00 am-12 noon.

(Mark your calendars. Child care will be provided! Refreshments will be served.)

Earlier this year, the Church Council charged an Ad Hoc committee to review the **Constitution and Bylaws** as charged by the fall Congregational meeting. With input from the various committees and boards, the Ad Hoc Committee came up with changes it viewed as an improvement. Some of these changes were very simple stylistic or clarifying changes and were referred to as “no brainers.” Others were attempts to bring the Constitution in line with what is the actual practice. Finally, some major changes were a rethinking of some structural items in how the church organizes itself.

At the congregational meeting, the Council and Ad Hoc committee will present the results of these proposed changes for debate by the congregation. In order to prepare you for this meeting, this article summarizes some of these changes and about how they came.

Finally, rather than trudge through the Constitution and Bylaws line by line and spend time on such things as grammar and punctuation, the Ad Hoc Committee has summarized the changes in a series of resolutions. Each resolution will describe a proposed change so as to facilitate an “issue by issue” debate at the meeting. The resolutions can be voted on one at a time, and we will go as far as we can in the time allotted. The exact words to be

changed associated with the resolutions are reflected in the documents provided at the meeting.

.....

RESOLUTIONS REGARDING CHANGES TO CUCC’S CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

[Note: This first section of resolutions (#1-7) contains ones that are more for clarity or organization of the document and do not reflect major changes in content. **Comments about resolutions are in brackets as seen here, and are prefaced by the word “Note:”.**]

1. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation the word changes that are underlined, in 12 point bold italic typeface in the Constitution/By Laws version dated 7/2/02.

[Note: These are mostly typographical or minor changes described by the Ad Hoc Committee as “no brainers.” This document will be handed out at the meeting.]

2. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that certain other functions be moved [moved in the document, not changed]. Specifically,

- Constitution; Article VII, Section 4, A & B (“Additional Positions of Church Historian and Church Librarian”) should be moved to Bylaws Article III, Section 17.

- That the ASP, which currently has no “home”, becomes part of the Board of Christian Witness. [Note: this is a view of ASP as a “youth mission” rather than a “youth education”, even though it is a bit of both]

- That the Forum be moved from Christian Education to Christian Witness, specifically to be part of the Social Action Committee (or the Social Action/Wider Outreach Committee should they merge)

3. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that all Boards consider having rotating chair positions (either following the Church Council model or by having a Chair and Vice Chair each serve in those positions for one year) so as to gain continuity.

4. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council suggest that the Board of Christian Witness make a recommendation as to whether or not Wider Outreach and Social Action should become one committee. If they merge, they shall retain their separate functions and roles.

5. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that there be at least three Congregational Meetings called every year:

- election of next year's officers and annual reports
- approval of budget for following year
- General Informational/Issues Meeting

6. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council present all of these recommendations, and any others deemed necessary, at the Special Congregational Meeting to be held Saturday, September 28th.

7. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council send a written letter of appreciation to the members of the Constitution/By Laws AD Hoc Committee for their sensitive and prayerful work which has brought so much progress to this important issue.

[Note: These resolutions (#8-13) are more substantive, and should generate more in-depth debate.]

8. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends a study of the "Purpose" and "Covenant" articles in the Constitution to determine if they accurately reflect our current understanding of ourselves. These two sections will be voted on at a subsequent Congregational meeting. We should get volunteers to work with the pastor to create these passages.

[Note: This simply asks the question, "Do these sections still accurately describe the Purpose and Covenant of the Church?"]

9. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that references to a Youth Fellowship Representative being members of the Church Council be omitted from the by-laws.

[Note: This is not meant to dilute the representation of youth in the church. This is simply recognition of fact. The Council has repeatedly over the years attempted to get a commitment from youth representatives. But it seems that attending Council meetings is not "dazzling" enough to garner interest. And none of these attempts has been very successful. The representation of youth issues within the church can be alternately achieved by participation as members of committees or boards.]

10. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that two more Boards be added: one for Stewardship and one for Growth/Evangelism. The functions of these Boards will be as follows:

- Board of Stewardship - Pledge Drive, Other Fund Raising, Finance, Nominating and any new functions that would benefit by being part of this Board. These activities will occur year round, rather than just at certain times of the year.

- Board of Growth & Development – Welcoming & Fellowship, Calling, Publicity, Communication, Membership Development and any new functions that would benefit by being part of this Board. (Caring would remain as function of Board of Deacons.)

[Note: This is a major change and covers areas that are either dispersed or not adequately stated in the current version. The Stewardship Board will focus on the "raising" side of financial issues and the Trustees will focus on the "spending" side.

The Growth and Development Board is a gathering of existing committees with a focus on supporting the growth of church membership as well as support of the existing ones.]

11. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that Boards have permanent functions rather than standing committees. Committees or groups will be formed to handle these functions, much as they are currently. Many of these Committees may stay in existence indefinitely. Some may last a few years. This will give us greater flexibility to change our structure as our needs change without having to change the Constitution. It is further resolved that the sections of the Constitution and the By Laws

which are affected by this change shall be modified accordingly.

[Note: The current constitution focuses on committees as the central place where the church achieves its mission. The proposed changes focus on “functions” that need to be addressed rather than the naming of specific committees. It is thought that the Boards should be responsible for specific functions (i.e. education) and that the Board would be free to organize itself however it needs, to best achieve those goals. This prevents the necessity of changing the Constitution anytime a committee is formed or changes focus. Take, for example, the Rotation Steering Committee. The Board of Christian Education is responsible for the educational program for youth during the service. In the constitution, this is nominally supposed to be done by the “Superintendent” in charge. The functions to be addressed have not changed but the specific committees have certainly changed. Focusing on functions frees the Board to organize itself as best it sees fit to achieve its goals.]

12. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that the Board of Deacons be expanded to 12 deacons and that they rotate the chair (Chair-elect, Chair and Past Chair) similar to the Council Moderator positions.

[Note: Rather than have the deacons listed as head of specific committees, the Deacons are viewed as lay leaders in the church. It will act similar to a Board in that they will organize themselves as needed to address functions.]

13. Be it resolved that the CUCC Church Council recommends to the congregation that the current educational functions continue but that the Board of Christian Education be temporarily disbanded until a clearer charter can be established. The Board further resolves to recommend that an Ad Hoc group propose how the Constitution and Bylaws should be amended.

[Note: The Board that is most out of line with practice is Christian Education. This Board believes they are not yet ready to propose its organization and will put forth this section of the Constitution at a future congregational meeting.]

CHRISTIAN WITNESS

SOCIAL ACTION

“If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say you are neutral – the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.” Desmond Tutu.

This bit of wisdom from Bishop Tutu heads the letter from Dr. Bernice Powell Jackson, Executive Minister, Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ, that introduces the 2002 Issues Briefing Book.

Rev. Jackson goes on to say, “This book is an excellent source of information on important issues facing our nation and our world. You are encouraged to utilize these pages in a variety of ways. Perhaps you simply want to learn the basics surrounding a complicated issue, or maybe you want to stimulate conversation within your church or family on a pressing issue of injustice, or possibly you want to take action on pending legislation now facing Congress.

Quite often, people will ask about the source of our particular stands on justice issues. The answer is General Synod. Every other year, representatives from around the United Church of Christ gather to deliberate resolutions and pronouncements that members, churches and bodies have introduced. If passed, these statements are assigned to our national covenanted ministries, which work collaboratively with congregations, Associations, and Conferences to make sure that the voice of faith is heard on these important matters.

I once heard that enough feathers will sink a ship. As an advocate for justice, I choose to believe that this is true. What we believe matters. Our faith has consequences. Our prayers and actions do make a difference. As Christians, we have the opportunity to stand side-by-side, shoulder-to-shoulder, to proclaim release instead of captivity, to offer bread instead of a stone, and to lend our voice in support of a hurting sister or brother, instead of turning away.

In this way, this book is a spiritual resource, where God’s people are linked together through common

struggle and shared hope. How powerful it is to believe that no one need suffer alone. Together, our love will proclaim the victory!”

Dr. Bernice Powell Jackson
Justice and Witness Ministries, UCC

Social Action Calendar

September 4th “Stop the Arms Race Vigil” –
12 noon. Fayetteville Street Mall.

September 7th “Alternatives to Violence”, March
and Rally – Gather at the Martin Luther King
Gardens at 11:30 am and march to capitol where the
program will start at 12:30 pm.

September 11th Interfaith Worship Service
sponsored by Exploris and the Interfaith Alliance
marking the anniversary of the attack on the World
Trade Center and the Pentagon and the tragic deaths
resulting from those events – 6:00 pm on Moore
Square. In case of rain the service will be held
inside Exploris.

October 6th Crop Walk – 1:00 pm Gather at Moore
Square in front of Exploris

WIDER OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Wright Center for Women needs dining ware

Do you have dishes, bowls, or silverware that you could donate to the Wright Center (formerly the Ark Shelter)? The inevitable breakage due to heavy use and the unique ability of table ware to wander off leaves the Center in constant need of replacement dining ware. If you have any you would like to donate, call Jane Smith (787-6539).

Friendship Support for a Special Person

Pat Spearman has brought Ramona to our attention. Pat visits Ramona at the N.C. Correctional Institution for Women and has come to know her as a woman of strong faith and open mind. Because Ramona has no family in North Carolina (in fact most are still in the Dominican Republic), she is spending a lonely 18-24 year sentence without the money for her basic needs

(new underwear, toiletries, stamps, and simple foods to supplement the awful prison diet).

Pat has asked CUCC to sponsor Ramona. She is looking for members who would agree to visit her periodically (some Sunday afternoons between 1:30 and 3:00) and others who might be willing to make small financial contributions toward her basic needs. These members would form a small support team for Ramona.

When I (Jane) spoke with Pat about this opportunity to share God’s love, I was struck that Pat describes her visits with joy and her friendship with Ramona as very rich and warm.

To learn more about this chance to support a special person in friendship, call Pat.

Celebration of the Spending of Art Eckel’s Bequest

With celebration, the Wider Outreach Committee announces that it has allocated the \$10,000 given by Art Eckels for the mission of CUCC. After several years of prayer, fact finding, retreats, and inspiring speakers, the Committee is excited about the opportunities for mission that Art’s gift provides.

- \$5000 will be used as seed money to encourage the growth of CUCC’s children and youth as the next generation of justice people. The new Christian Education position is being designed to provide the necessary organization and support for the adults of CUCC to nurture the next generation through special projects, youth groups, church school and a host of as-yet undreamed possibilities. The origin of the seed money in Art’s gift ensures that the position will be focused on the justice work of the congregation and help us resist the temptation to focus only inward. As Marjorie told us, Art always urged us to look to the future. (A note: Marjorie was always reluctant to impose her thoughts on the group. Her comments came after our time of prayer – see below.)
- \$5000 will be used as seed money for Habitat for Humanity houses TWO and THREE (\$2500 per year). Yes, we’re just beginning House ONE, but Wider Outreach dreams of forming a solid, ongoing interfaith partnership which will not only build houses but will allow us to meet needs together as God guides us. Not only does the Habitat project connect us to an interfaith

group at NCSU, the Interfaith Alliance, and Temple Beth Or, but it also connects us to H2O, a youth service organization founded by our partner church, St. Luke's Catholic Church. This ongoing association will allow us to take on challenges far beyond the resources of our congregation while building relationships that we value. As Marjorie reminded us, no basic human need was of more importance to Art than housing.

There is one final tale to tell you. As the Committee discussed the proposals for use of the money, a thunderstorm began to brew. And as we entered our time of prayer for God's guidance on this decision, lightning flashed and thunder shook Pilgrim House! As we emerged from our silence in the midst of this powerful storm, each of us had a sense that our decision was a good one. Whether it was seeing a vision, hearing God's guidance to relax, analyzing the options, noting the "coincidences" or expressing a feeling of happy calmness, each of us felt God's presence.

We celebrate this decision and the foresight and witness of Art Eckels who gave us this responsibility and launched us on this journey of faith.

Food Bags – reminder to bring your food bags next Sunday, September 1st.



Members of CUCC donated 17 bags of groceries in August to the Urban Ministries. The food bag donations are collected the first Sunday of the month. Please maintain a high level of giving during the summer. When children are not receiving meals at school, many families need help with feeding them at home. The food bag shopping cart and lists of needed items can be found in the Vaughn Wing. Remember: Please use double bags and tie securely. Thanks!

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee will be scheduling the family photographing for our pictorial directory very soon. Photography will take place at the following times:

Wednesday – October 30 – 2:30 - 9:00 pm

Friday – November 1 – 2:30 - 9:00 pm

Saturday – November 2 – 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

You may sign up after church services beginning September 22. Retired people and others who are able are requested to choose the afternoon hours on Wednesday and Friday in order to save the evening and Saturday times for working families. We will be able to select our proofs at the time of photographing. The finished pictures purchased will be returned in ample time for holiday giving. Please help us by looking ahead & keeping these dates in mind. The Hoffmann and Bradow rooms and the library will be fully utilized during this time. Groups normally using these rooms will need to make alternate arrangements. We do hope this will not cause any hardships.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CUCC Church School Program:

Enjoy being with children but don't want to prepare a lesson?

You might be a terrific Floater. Floaters are the extra pair of adult hands we need on Sunday to help children and parents feel secure and help teachers focus on the children. The Floater greets visiting families before worship, explaining how Children's Time, church school, and the nursery work and settling children with a children's bulletin or drawing board. When the children leave worship, the Floater helps visiting children find their classrooms and meet their teachers. The Floater collects attendance sheets. And the Floater can be called upon by a teacher to stay in the classroom to provide an extra pair of adult hands for an art project, game, or dramatic presentation. Floaters sign up for specific Sundays and, if not needed in a

classroom, are welcome to return to worship. Interested in learning more? Call Anne Pope.

Where Is My Child?

Baffled about where to find your children and grandchildren after worship? On the bulletin board outside the narthex and on the Children and Youth bulletin board opposite the kitchen are schedules and room assignments for each class. While children always begin class in the same rooms (preschoolers in the playroom, elementary schoolers in Performance Pond, and middle schoolers in the Bradow room), they move around depending on the center they are doing. By the way, you can point out “Where Is My Child?” to visitors, too; a map helps to decipher our room names.

New Staff Position Provides Support for Growing Our Children and Youth

The Rotation Steering Committee has adopted a goal of nurturing the next generation of spiritually growing, justice seeking people. Toward that end, they requested, and Council has approved, the hiring of a part time staff person whose roles include providing administrative support, coordinating next steps in building our youth education program, and supporting and inspiring CUCC’s adults, youth and children in this work. For those who have been involved in leading the youth education programs over the years, the need has become critical for someone to coordinate programs so that together we can address our program weaknesses and enrich our strengths.

Preliminary work has been done on developing a job description and qualifications list; the next step is to coordinate with the Personnel Committee and Board of Deacons. We hope the person will be in place by Christmas.

What’s Up in Church School in September?

Nursery: Tiffany and Toni Maes continue to play with our youngest children.

Preschool and Elementary School (Rotation Church School): We wind up our rotation on the Fruit of the Spirit (lessons on Peter, Paul and Priscilla) and turn to a rotation on Faith (lessons on Abraham and Sarah).

Middle School: Discussions with CUCC adults on their faith journeys.

Mark Your Calendars

September 1, Communion Sunday: This year, elementary age children will return to the sanctuary to sit with their parents during communion. Parents can decide whether they’d like for their children to take communion.

September 8: Playground dedication at 10:30 worship.

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum returns after a summer hiatus.

For four Sundays in September we will be returning to the subject of “What It Means To Be a Just Peace Church When Our Nation Is at War.” Dr. Ed Klemmer is arranging the programs and at least one session will include a report from the ad hoc committee that has been studying organizations that do research on violence and how to prevent it. For the members and friends of a Just Peace Church these four sessions should be very helpful. The beginning date is September 8th and the time is 9:15 am. Please plan to attend.

September 8 – A review of a speech delivered by Ambassador Jack Perry at the Southeastern World Affairs Institute in July.

September 15 – “Peace and the church: Lessons from History.” Dr. Joseph Caddell of the History Department at NCSU (Invited)

September 22 – Darla Dardorff and a student from the Center for International Studies, sponsored by UNC Chapel Hill, Duke University and Rotary International.

September 29 – A report on the work of the CUCC Peace Committee: Jane Smith Moderator with Sam Johnson, Ed Klemmer, Sue Cottle, Robert Parrish and Cy King.

Speakers in October will include Monica Cutno from 10,000 Villages; Daylia Vaughan on the Industrial Areas Foundation and Dan Figgins on Global Environmental Politics. Your participation in the discussions is encouraged.

From the Archives

“A Generous and Cheerful Gift”

(many years ago)
submitted by Cy King

The following anonymous letter accompanied a gift to the church - a check for \$10,000!

To: Community United Church of Christ
Raleigh, NC.

For your courage in facing controversial issues,
For your strength in crisis and your concern for the truth,
For your support of creativity at all levels,
For the spiritual leadership of your (Our) recent ministers, who match their caring hearts with sturdy intellects,
For the infinite variety of folks who move through and in this church and our lives,
For staying the course,
For trying to do something to relieve tragedy and injustice in the rest of the world, not only in our own midst,
For being the lodestar to this wayfarer.

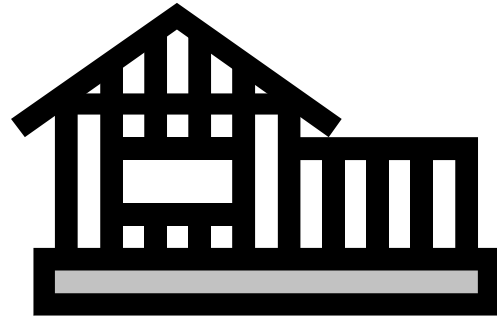
This money is to be invested (wisely, I hope) and the income to be used at the discretion of the Board of Deacons, preferably for the enrichment of Christian education for our children and youth and/or the music program and the church’s pursuit of peace and justice.”

The response from the Church:

Dear Donor:

We thank you and we love you! May you inspire us all to generosity and vision.”

Let the Congregation say AMEN with checkbook in hand!



Our Habitat House

Begins construction

Saturday, September 14th

At that time we will meet our Habitat sponsored family who are Emanuel & Margaret Kembe. A volunteer worker sign-up sheet is posted on the wall in the narthex. The type of work on a given Saturday is noted along with a hopeful completion date of February 1, 2003.

Join in the fun of putting your “hands to work and hearts to God!”

OUR PEOPLE

Our congratulations to Sue Cottle who has recently retired from her 25-year career with the Wake County Public Libraries. From a *News and Observer* feature article “Sue Cottle has entertained children with tales of Rosberry the traveling pig, puppet shows and other delights. ...She not only brings the stories to life with her energy and keeps the children’s attention, but she also brings people in the community together”.

SPECIAL DAYS

Youth Birthdays

September Birthdays*

9/28/90 – Thomas Harris

October Birthdays*

10/2/97 – Paul Lee

10/3/92 – Ruben Suarez

10/5/91 – Ferline Milandu

10/13/84 – Nathan Koenning

10/14/95 – Susie Binganisi

10/17/99 – Sophia Hase

10/18/84 – Taylor Griggs

10/21/84 – Thierry Binganisi

10/21/95 – Ellen Milandu

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN FUND NEWS!

We have received a very generous offer from an anonymous member who would like to see us have a new organ by Christmas.

The offer is a \$5000 gift, if the congregation can match that amount. This potential \$10,000 should give us enough capitol to purchase a quality organ that will meet our musical needs for decades into the future.

More information about the Organ Fund and this matching gift offer will be available at a Special Congregational Meeting on Saturday, September 28th from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. Please make every effort to attend.

Pastor Steve

FOR FUN

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation, “I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it’s still out there in your pockets.!”