

COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Nurturing Spiritual Growth and Working for Social Justice

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April 2011

AUCTION APRIL 30

Newsletter published monthly for Community United Church of Christ (CUCC) members and friends

A Word from our Pastor

Dear Friends,

As we move into April we begin the second half of our journey through Lent. As we move toward the day of Easter – Resurrection Celebration, we have some very special worship activities planned that you will not want to miss!

On Sunday April 3 we will celebrate communion together by using our finest communion ware and sending trays and cups out into the pews for a quiet meditative experience. We will also receive the One Great Hour of Sharing collection as we respond to the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan by sending much needed aid.

On Sunday April 10 our youth, under the leadership of **Śānti Matthews**, will lead us in worship as they interpret the events of the Last supper and serve us communion.

On Sunday April 17 we begin Holy Week with our Palm/Passion Sunday processional. Please meet in the courtyard by 10:25 a.m., so we can get organized and ready to begin, with the choir leading the processional as we journey with Jesus waving our Palm branches in homage to him.

On Sunday April 24 for the early risers like Mary Magdalene and Peter we will have a sunrise ecumenical service at (6:30 a.m.) at Fairmont United Methodist Church on their lawn. Our own **Rev. Robert Parrish** will deliver the Easter message at that service and I will assist with Rev. Steve Hickle and Rev. Joe Ward in serving communion. For our 10:30 a.m. Easter service at CUCC, please remember to bring your cut flowers for our annual Resurrection Cross!

Please see other sections of our newsletter for other Lenten activities during the month of April. May each and every one of you have a blessed spiritual journey and receive the newness of resurrection life promised as we celebrate Easter!

Blessings and Peace

Steve

Stewardship

Still haven't collected on an auction item from 2010? Ready for the good news?
The items don't expire!! Hopefully, you will be able to collect in 2011.
Maybe a phone call on your part will trigger a prompt response!

CUCC Family Fun Auction Saturday, April 30, 6:30 PM

The CUCC Family Fun Auction is coming up on Saturday, April 30, and
WE NEED YOU
to help make it a success!

Make plans to attend this terrific annual event! Socializing (with wine and hors d'oeuvres) and a silent auction begin at 6:30 pm; the live auction with bidding starts at 7:00 p.m. Childcare will be provided, and a great time is **absolutely guaranteed!**

The auction is an annual fundraiser for CUCC. **Would you consider donating an item to the auction?**

Examples of past auction items include:

- * Pet-sitting, Babysitting, Yard work & Handyman services
- * Garden plants
- * Delicious baked goods, homemade jams and relishes
- * Weekends at the beach, lake or mountains
- * Day trips to destinations like Jugtown
- * Nature-centered field trips; hikes at a state park
- * Hand-made pottery, quilts and jewelry
- * Therapeutic massage
- * A morning of bird-watching & lunch
- * European-style brunch with friends
- * Framed artwork
- * Dinner for two with friends
- * Legal services
- * Real estate appraisal

Please contribute your time, talents or treasure to this wonderful annual event. To make a pledge, complete the pledge form and return it to Carol Clark at the CUCC office as soon as possible (before Wednesday, April 27). Use email, snail mail, a personal visit, or the offering plate to return your form! **Pledge forms are found at the end of the newsletter** and on the table in the back of the sanctuary and at the church office.

Thanks for your support, and **SEE YOU AT THE AUCTION!**

From the Deacons

Lenten Activities

Worship Services:

Youth Sunday – April 10, 10:30 a.m. Worship

Palm Sunday – April 17, 10:30 a.m. Worship – Palm Processional from Courtyard (gather at 10:15)

Maundy Thursday – April 21, 7:00 p.m. – Tenebrae Candles and Healing Prayer

Easter Sunday – April 24, 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service; 10:30 a.m. Flower Cross and Resurrection Service

Faith Enhancement Opportunities

1. **Centering Prayer Gatherings**

Tuesday, March 15 – 7 p.m. Vaughan fellowship hall

Tuesday, April 5 – 7 p.m. Vaughan fellowship hall

2. **Healing Service**

Tuesday, April 5 – 6:30 p.m. – Vaughan fellowship hall

3. **Study Group – “Chasing Francis” by Ian Cron**

Led by Steve Halsted – Discussion of a contemporary novel about a modern-day journey in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi.

Friday – April 1, 8, 15 – 7 p.m. – Pilgrim House

3. **Study Group – “Post cards from the creative, restless edge of the Church**

Led by Jane Smith – For the past six months I’ve been on a Grand Tour of the outskirts of the Church. I’ve traveled through Emergence, the New Monasticism, Big Tent, TransForm, and Virtual Church. I’ve lingered on the border between Where-we-are and Where-we might-be-going. I’ve wondered what will thrive, what will fade away, and what will transform us at CUCC. As on any trip to other cultures, I’ve discovered places I’d like to visit again and places where once was enough. I have a glossary of new words in foreign tongues and loads of photos to share. And I’ve met people, wonderful people, to whom I’d like to introduce you. Join me for:

Mondays – April 4, 11 – 7 p.m. – Vaughan fellowship hall for stories of the creative, restless edge of the Church. **Warning:** expect 1 hour of homework each week.

4. **Tai Chi Exercise and Meditation**

Wednesday mornings – 9:30 a.m. – Vaughan fellowship hall

Lenten events on the GLBT aging population:

“Breaking Generation Silent.” Anyone interested in carpooling to the Generation Silent movie at the Friday Center on April 2, please contact the church office at 787-6422. Carpoolers should be at the church parking lot at 11:30 a.m. **Make your own lunch plans!**

In addition to the April 2 event, the film will be shown at the Galaxy Theater in Cary Friday evening, April 1. There, ticket prices are \$20, and proceeds will benefit the LGBT Center of Raleigh.

Sacraments and Chancel

Easter lilies: In planning for the Easter celebration, the Sacraments and Chancel committee would like to decorate the sanctuary and narthex with **massed** Easter lilies. If you would like to dedicate a lily or lilies to a loved one, please notify the office and enclose a check for \$10.00 per plant labeled "lilies".

Arts in Worship

The Art Wall has a new installation of works by CUCC youth – **Greer, Afton, & Caelan Eckard, Leah Jensen, and Vyas Kepler (Carol Kepler's grandson)**. There are a variety of techniques, including photographs. Please make your way down the hall to view and appreciate these pieces. The art wall is across from the Bradow/Hoffmann rooms.

CUCC Chancel Choir to sing Mozart's Requiem Mass May 1, 10:30 worship

On Sunday May 1st, Holocaust Remembrance Day, the chancel choir will lead our worship of God with a performance of Mozart's Requiem Mass in D Minor, enhanced by guest soloists and instrumentalists.

"The Requiem was the last piece of music written by Mozart. He died before he could finish it, and it was completed by his pupil Sussmayer. The precise contribution of Sussmayer has long been subjected to controversy and doubt....Musicological research, however, has convincingly proved that up to the last three sections he did little more than fill out the instrumentation. It is the last three sections...that trouble the musical authorities. What probably happened is that Mozart explained his intentions to Sussmayer so clearly and in such detail that the latter had no difficulty in putting down on paper Mozart's final conception. We have the evidence of Sophie Haibl, who was with the composer up to the time of his death, that 'Sussmayer was at Mozart's bedside. The Requiem lay on the quilt and Mozart was explaining to him how, in his opinion, he ought to finish it when he was gone.' About one point there can be no question. The Requiem is pure Mozart and Mozart at his very greatest....The chilling

awareness that he was dying, and that he was writing his own requiem, brought to his writing an other worldly beauty and a depth of feeling unique even for Mozart." From Milton Cross's Encyclopedia of the Great Composers and Their Music by Milton Cross and David Ewen.

– submitted by **Doug Barrick**

Religious Education

Preschool and Elementary News

Our classes are completing our study of the miracles of Jesus. We will be studying Easter throughout the month of April.

Our annual cleaning of the playground was done a couple of weeks ago. We will have another cleanup day on the playground before Easter.

We are again participating in "**Plant a Row for the Hungry**" in conjunction with Logan's Nursery. I signed us up and picked up all of the supplies a couple of weeks ago. On Sunday, March 20 we planted our seeds in seed trays. I have been watering them "religiously" during the week. We will move them to the garden after Easter. We have also spent a portion of our time on Sunday mornings helping to prepare the garden by removing rocks from the bed. This is an overwhelming task but I think it is important for the children to know how much work is involved in feeding people. Logan's Nursery was so impressed that such a young group wanted to participate again that they donated watermelon seeds to us to grow just for fun. We will plant them in the box just outside our classroom when we remove the pansies. Maybe we will have watermelon for the July 4th seed spitting contest!!!

Our annual **Easter Egg hunt** will be held on Palm Sunday. Please remember to bring your basket!!!!!!

On **May 1** we will hold a **bake sale** to support The Make a Wish Foundation. This is the charity the children selected to support in January. We will donate our Sunday School offering and proceeds from the bake sale. We will be collecting funds until the end of August. Please plan to support us if you are here on May 1.

– submitted by **Anne Bailey Zschau**

Youth

The recent past:

We began preparations for the Lenten youth-led worship service to be held on April 10. We spent three Sundays preparing during church school and youth group, and also shared a Lenten Lock-In on March 25 which also focused on preparation for worship.

March also included a movie night: "*Rango*" a *chameleon with an identity crisis*.

The near future...

April will include continued planning for the youth-led worship on April 10. Each year we offer a youth-led worship service during Lent, based on a Holy Week event. Youth spend several weeks writing, drawing, dancing, preparing music, and planning liturgy for this worship. This year we will focus on the Last Supper, and on the many gifts we each bring, that together form one body. A special thanks goes out to the parents who have been amazing support this year as we prepare to worship God together.

April 3: ASP Shareholders' Report and Stock Sales

April 10: Youth-Led Worship and ASP Stock Sales

April 17: Palm Sunday - youth will hide Easter eggs and candy, and help the children find them – followed by some free time basketball for youth.

April 24: Easter Sunday - youth will attend worship with their families, enjoy the new life Easter brings and celebrate!

April 29: ASP Lock-In and Yard Sale Prep

April 30: ASP Yard Sale

Save the date: May 21 - Confirmation

Class Camping Trip (Umstead Park)

– submitted by **Śanti Matthews**

The **Forum** meets Sundays at 9:15-10:15 in the Vaughan fellowship hall.

Forum April Schedule

April 3 – Ms. Willona Stallings, Program Associate for Health and Wholeness at the North Carolina

Council of Churches, will present a program on "Promoting Health and the Faith Issue." She will be happy to respond to questions from the audience.

April 10 – Diana Koenning is responsible for this program and will be in touch with you.

April 17 – Sandy Irving, a dedicated and knowledgeable volunteer with the North Carolina Council of Churches, will bring us up to date on what is happening in Congress and elsewhere with regard to health care reform. She is a zealous advocate for Preserving Health Care Reform.

April 24 – Easter – **NO** Forum

Social Justice

Pilgrimage for Justice and Peace, April 17 – 22

A march from Goldsboro, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Greensboro and Durham to Raleigh to protect immigrants' rights, reform trade policies and provide justice for all workers. Join the march, contribute financially, **be at the State Capitol** at noon on April 22 to join the Way of the Cross Good Friday Pilgrimage in downtown Raleigh. See the Social Justice Bulletin Board for details.

– submitted by **Cy King**

Welcoming Fellowship & Growth

Sisters in Spirit (SIS)

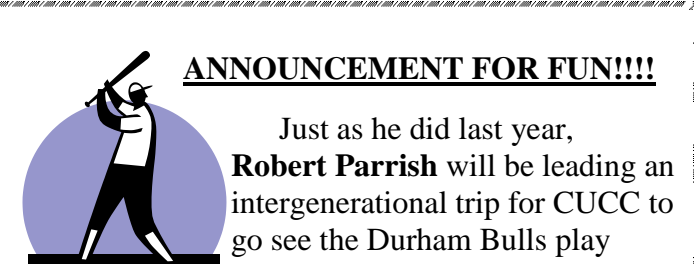
Ladies, interested in dressing up and going out for a night on the town with SIS? We'll be doing just that on *Thursday*, April 21st. Dinner at Seaboard 18 is at 6:30 p.m. followed by the play "Last Night of Ballyhoo" at the Raleigh Little Theatre – 8:00 curtain. (Call the box office soon at 821-3111 for reservations on row B, C, or D. Adult tickets are \$20, student/senior tickets \$16). Take an evening to splurge on yourself with friends for this unique evening of fancy.

Retirees Group

At our meeting on Monday, April 11, Dr. Dennis Hazel, Professor in the Forestry Department of the College of Natural Resources at NCSU, will follow up his previous address on the issue of **Global Warming and alternative energy from forestry sources**. Come join us at 10:30 for this special presentation. Bring a sandwich for lunch; drinks and dessert are provided.

Monday Lunch

In April, discussion of *Creation Continues* continues (pun irresistible). . Monday lunch meets each Monday, 12:15-1:45 p.m. in the Hoffmann room.



ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FUN!!!!

Just as he did last year, **Robert Parrish** will be leading an intergenerational trip for CUCC to go see the Durham Bulls play baseball!. After all, everyone

loves America's favorite pastime. The trip to the Durham Bulls Athletic Park will take place on **Friday, May 22nd**.

If you are planning on going to the game and carpooling, please plan on arriving at the Dixie Trail Parking lot at 6:00 p.m. when car-pooling arrangements will be made. Sign up dates and ticket information will be forth coming in early May.



– submitted by **Robert Parrish**

Our People

Prayer Requests

Please write your prayer request on a slip of paper and place it in the offering plate or one of the prayer jars (Narthex and office). Prayers are solicited for: **Al Matthews, Carolyn King, Lisa Marsh, Ann McLaughlin's mother, Frances Cox; Kerma Hazel, the Milandu family, Nancy Callaham, Vandy Bradow**, those impacted by the oil spill; the people of the DRC, and other victims of war and natural disaster across the globe.

Congratulations

We will be celebrating the publication of **Mike Schafale's** new book – **WILD NORTH CAROLINA; discovering the wonders of our State's Natural Communities** by David Blevins & Michael P. Schafale

after the Palm Sunday worship service, April 17. Come enjoy fellowship with our very own author. You will be able to purchase a copy at that time and have Mike autograph it for you.

– Submitted by **Mary Pruneau**, Caring Committee

Our Young People's Birthdays



4/12/98 – **Casey Riemann**

4/12/99 – **John Robertson**

4/21/98 – **Leah Jensen**

5/1/03 – **Alex Bumgardner**

5/23/09 – **Jesse Leidheiser-Stoddard**



**Samantha Kennedy and
Drew Dickens
are now engaged!!!!**

THANKS CAROL KEPLER

Carol has refinished the two small oak tables used in the sanctuary as well as the whole top of the Communion table that had water damage. The tables all look like new!

Community Outreach

YOUR JCC GREEN TIP FOR APRIL:

The typical American home has forty electrical products that stay on even when they are turned off or in standby mode. 'Phantom or vampire energy' accounts for five to ten percent of residential electricity use.

These electrical products all use phantom energy: televisions, DVD players, cable boxes; computers, monitors, and printers; chargers for cell phones, digital cameras, and electric toothbrushes left plugged in; power tools and other gadgets that draw power; cordless phones along with most anything with a soft keypad; audio system components.

Things you can do:

- Unplug things when they are not in use if possible.
- Use a 'smart' power strip for clusters of computer/video/audio products so you can switch everything to zero with one action.
- Upgrade or replace electrical appliances and products to Energy Star-rated ones.
- Always keep your eye out for green technology even when buying even these things.

Understand that it will be difficult to eliminate phantom energy entirely; sometimes it is needed. For example: continuous displays (microwave clock), monitoring of temperature (refrigerator), maintaining signal reception capability (cable TV without having to reboot), powering an internal clock, battery charging (cordless phone).

To understand this better, go to www.vampirepowersucks.com (a video too). For comprehensive information, go to: www.standby.lbl.gov.



Emergency food bags:

In March we collected 22 food bags. Thanks to **Mac Hulslander**, they were delivered promptly to Urban Ministries. If you want to stretch your "food bag" dollars, I have been told that Aldi's offers incredible bargains for food bag items. Thanks for continuing to contribute so generously!

Food bags will be collected **April 3rd** and every first Sunday of the month.

– submitted by **Marge Eckels**

Wider Church

The **OGHS offering** will be collected Sunday, April 3. Please bring a check with notation to OGHS or money to be put in the envelope provided in next week's bulletin

Wider Outreach



YARD SALE!!!!

Your treasures needed for ASP yardsale

We know you need to clear out your home so that you have space to buy wonderful items at the CUCC auction. The CUCC Appalachia Service Project team has come to your rescue! Donate your treasures to our April 30 yard sale. Then, that night, go to the auction to find new treasures! If you have items to donate, contact a member of the ASP team (Carson, Jackson, Ron, Paul, Gary, Jane or Šanti). We ask that all items be in good condition. No clothes, please. Closer to the event we'll advertise a date to drop items at CUCC.

A Month of Sundays

April 3 | Fourth Sunday in Lent | 9:00-9:30 Taizé led by Bernie & Ken Brown; 9:15 Bible Study; 9:15 Adult Forum; 10:30 Worship Service with Communion & Church School; Fellowship Time with ASP stock sale.

Lectionary: 1 Sam 16:1-13; Ps 23; Eph 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

April 10 | Fifth Sunday in Lent | 9:00-9:30 Taizé led by Amy Jensen & Lavon Page and Jo Perry; 9:15 Bible Study; 9:15 Adult Forum; 10:30 Worship Service (Youth leading) & Church School; Fellowship Time with ASP stock sale, shareholders report & children's building site.

Lectionary: Ezek 37:1-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

April 17 | Palm Sunday | 9:00-9:30 Taizé led by Mike Schafale (with Communion); 9:15 Bible Study; 9:15 Adult Forum; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time.

Lectionary: Ps 118:1-2, 19-29; Matt 21:1-11; Isa 50:4-9a; Ps 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; Matt 26:14-27:66 or Matt 27:11-54

April 24 | Easter Sunday | 9:00-9:30 Taizé led by Amy Jensen & Lavon Page and Jo Perry; 9:15 Bible Study; 9:15 Adult Forum; 10:30 Worship Service & Church School; Fellowship Time.

Lectionary:

Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6; Ps 118:1-2, 14-24; Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matt 28:1-10

[Auction donation form on the next page](#)

Print, fill in, list your donation, and send to CUCC

CUCC FAMILY FUN AUCTION

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Social and Silent Auction begin at 6:30 pm; Bidding at 7:00 pm

The CUCC Auction gives you a chance to share your talents and services as a gift to the church and to have a great time doing it!! Please think about what special offerings you might put up for bids and then fill out this pledge form.

Refreshments offered: Cookies, brownies, hors d'oeuvres, wine, soft drinks, lemonade, coffee.

Possible contributions (from previous years):

Home-made items such as desserts, jams, paintings, quilts or pottery!!

Services such as babysitting, petsitting, guided specialty tours, entertainment, or dinners either at your place or theirs!!

Resources such as vacation homes, canoes or kayak trips!!

Silent Auction items: *Mystery box*, possible youth treasures (please, no old yard sale items).....

DONATION FORM

Suggestion: If you offer multiple items of one thing, such as jam or cookies, please give us a suggested price and how many of those items you have for sale (if possible) under "Conditions."

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone _____

1. I will contribute: _____
Minimum bid. \$ _____ Dates offered _____
Conditions (if any): _____
2. I will contribute: _____
Minimum bid. \$ _____ Dates offered _____
Conditions (if any): _____
3. I will contribute: _____
Minimum bid. \$ _____ Dates offered _____
Conditions (if any): _____

Please return this form to the office ASAP. Final deadline is Wednesday, April 27.

? I would like to see _____ offered at the auction.

? I would like babysitting services. _____ Or a youth video. _____

? I plan to attend the auction: Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

