

From the Pastor's Desk

I was ready to finish the project. Then I got stuck. The information I needed was on a website. I clicked on it, entered my user name and entered my password. *Incorrect password.* After some bouncing around with trying to *remember* the correct one, finally I gave in to the cyber-gods and created a new one. Now I could finish the project...or so it seemed.

Clicking on the appropriate icon for the information I needed, a screen appeared...a virtually *blank* screen, with a virtually *blank* message: This service is temporarily unavailable. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please try again later.

Remember when folks only had *one* phone and "getting a busy signal" simply meant redialing again in a couple minutes with a certain connection. Seems nostalgia and reality are always competing for our attention. The more busy we become, the more desirable yesterday seems.

I could just as easily have been relining the brakes on my car in the middle of the night having forgotten to buy the replacement pads. Of course, that would not create the same sort of emergency that it used to present either, since nowadays one can easily find a place to buy practically *anything* virtually any time of day...or night.

Blank screen. Blank message. *Temporarily unavailable.*

Occasionally, things such as computers, websites, etc., need to be taken care of. Our automobiles need to be maintained on a regular basis in order to continue operating at efficient levels. But there is a striking contrast between

what we know and practice about machines versus how we respond to the needs of our own bodies, minds and spirits.

After *six days* of a lot of creative work, one of the Genesis creation stories says that God *rested*. A lot of birth had been given. It is no coincidence we call this "labor." All of the birthing was very good, but it is hard work! Imagine God resting like a mother after giving birth and holding all of Creation. The demands of that Creation would soon enough be begging for attention, growing, walking and getting into all sorts of stuff. But this day God rested and delighted in Creation.

Think of women today who rarely slow down for even a moment of their *own* time. Giving care, taking care, of others...at home, work, church, school, even on the playgrounds. You know them. You may be one of them. You have been the recipient of their tireless labor. Relate to them as Divine.

We could all do well with being *temporarily unavailable* and by creating that sort of space with others. For after God's Sabbath *rest*, Creation really gets going! My friend, Jay Marshall translates the verse from Exodus about remembering the Sabbath to keep it holy as *Relax frequently in God's rejuvenating presence*. That means being *unavailable* is only *temporary*, but it should occur often, and it should always rejuvenate us.

Now, let's see if I can finish that project.

Peace, Nathan

Circles

The Morning Circle will meet on Monday, May 2 at 10:00am in the church parlor.

The Mildred Suther Circle will meet on Monday, May 2 at 7:00pm at the home of Dot Kindley.

The Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 10 at 7:00pm at the home of Ann Rollins.

Churchmen's Fellowship

The Churchmen's Fellowship will meet on Sunday, May 1 at 8:00 for their breakfast meeting.

First Sunday Fellowship

Sunday, May 1, 2005

Fellowship Hall ~ 12:15pm

Immediately Following Worship

Take a friend with you!



"What a moving Good Friday and Easter service, Sunday school and breakfast. I really felt like I felt Easter for the first time." ~ Denise Carroll

Introductory T'ai Chi Class

On Saturday, May 7 at from 4:00 to 5:00pm, Gerald Moose will teach an introductory class to T'ai Chi in Trinity's Fellowship Hall. This is the Yang style short form of T'ai Chi.



T'ai Chi, an ancient Chinese art based on natural laws, teaches revelation, erases tension, and boosts energy. It is a series of quiet soft movements; the quiet to cultivate the spirit; the soft to nurture the body. It is a gentle exercise performed in a calm and peaceful manner. It works for all, regardless of age.

No fee is required, but a freewill donation to Trinity UCC is welcome.



trinityuccconcord.org

Our Service in May

Children's Message

Debbie Johnson

Sound System

Ray Monks

Acolyte

Jacob Brown

Nursery

5/1 Michael Pell & Zach Monks

5/8 Gina Pell & Grace Puckett

5/15 Dana Etherton

5/22 Dalphine Brown & Zach Monks

5/29 Lorna Colson & Amanda Miller

Liturgists

5/1 Eugenia Holste

5/8 Kris Monks

5/15 Cathey Bridges

5/22 Phil Rollins

5/29 Ann Rollins

Birthdays & Anniversaries in May

- 1 Carl & Floryne Misenheimer †
- 3 Bobby Hahn
- 4 Dick Cheek*
Samantha Woodward
- 5 Keith Eagle
Jorene Suther
- 7 Mary Bowles
- 9 Phyllis Baucom
- 12 Bobby Bonds
- 13 Ricky* & Robin Drake †
- 15 Dot Kindley
Sarah Woodward
Steve* & Estelle Ferraro †
Joe & Shirley Suther †
- 16 David & Mary Bowles †
- 17 Carin Keen*
- 21 Blaine McHale
Dick & Pat Cheek* †
- 25 Will Howard*
Carl Misenheimer !
- 30 David & Nancy Ray †
- 31 Vicki Powell

! 80 (or 80+) !!! 90 (or 90+) † Anniversaries * Non Member

CVAN's Men for Change

Last year 453 men came together to individually and collectively say "domestic violence is wrong". Because violence against women affects us all, CVAN came together as "Men for Change" and raised \$48,000

Will you sign up as a "Man for Change" this year?

By giving \$100 today, you will help provide safety, shelter and support for battered women and their children. Your name will be listed on Father's Day to announce that you and hundreds more say "no" to domestic violence.

Make your tax deductible check payable to CVAN, PO Box 1749, Concord, NC 28026. Your contribution must be received by June 1 to be included in the newspaper ads.

Women's Summer Conference

CATAWBA COLLEGE

SALISBURY, NC

THEME ~ RURAL WOMEN IN THE UCC

JUNE 9 – 11

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 9

Forms are on the downstairs bulletin board and in the church office

Pastoral Letter

Copies of a pastoral letter from the ministers of the Southern Conference are available in the Narthex for you to take home and read. The purpose for the letter is to voice real concern and also express hope for the future of the United Church of Christ.



Tip of the Day

If you get burned while cooking in the kitchen or burned from a hot iron, put a slice of raw potato on the burn. The potato eases the pain and reduces blistering.

Beginning June 5th



*Worship
Schedule
for the
Summer*

Continental Breakfast

8:30am

Sunday School

8:45am

Worship

9:55am

Union Street Live!

Union Street Live! returns in 2005 for a summer of music and dancing and fun. Concerts will be held on the third Thursday of each month from May through September from 6pm to 9pm on the lawn of the historic courthouse.

May 19

Too Much Sylvia

June 16

The Fantastic Shakers

July 21

Déjà vu

August 18

Band of Oz

September 15

Coconut Groove Band

Wear your dancing shoes but please leave your coolers and dogs at home.

Piedmont Choral Society Spring Concert

You are cordially invited
to the

Spring Concert of the
Piedmont Choral Society

on Friday, May 6, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 8, 2005 at 3:00 p.m.

at St. James Lutheran Church, Concord

A reception will follow
in the parish hall.

This concert is supported in part by a grant from the Grass Roots Arts Program of the North Carolina Arts Council and the Cabarrus Arts Council.

From the 125th Anniversary Committee

Harold Holste, reporting

This is the schedule we are aiming at. A lot of details will be filled in as we go along. WOW!

The theme for the anniversary celebration is John 17:21 ... “that they may all be one.”

1. May & June 2005 – Presentation of sample throws that may be made of Trinity’s history. Information will be given by Rose Edwards and James Cress. Information will also be in the bulletin to make your orders.
2. July to October 2005 – Orders will be received for a special Christmas tree ornament of the 125th anniversary. Phyllis Baucom is working on this.
3. January 1, 2006 – Proclamation of the Celebration. This could include information of planned events for Trinity’s celebration.
4. February 26, 2006 – First special service. Missions of Trinity Church from its beginnings to the present day.
5. March 2006 – Pictorial Directory pictures made.
6. May 6, 2006 – Honoring former pastor. Knowing all living pastors would not be able to attend on the same day, we have chosen four Sundays, hoping that one or more can be present on one of these Sundays. This is the first Sunday.
7. May 14, 2006 – Second special service. Women involved in missions in Trinity Church including the Women’s Missionary Society.
8. June 4, 2006 – Honoring former pastors.
9. June 2006 – Vacation Bible School with efforts to invite New Gilead Church and First UCC of Concord. New Gilead and Trinity had two periods in which they shared a pastor. First Church is the new member of the present day United Church of Christ in which we find our relationship connected.
10. July 2, 2006 – Honoring former pastors.
11. August 6, 2006 – Honoring former pastors. This might be a memory lane time or they may or may not preach.
12. September 24, 2006 – Third special service. This will be a service of music from the beginning of Trinity to the present. This is Homecoming. Our choir director/organist has proposed writing an anthem or hymn for our celebration. We will have a hymn sing with musical instruments, making a joyful noise to the Lord.
13. Sometime in November – Last special event. Possibly a time capsule will be buried.

Most Mothers are always amazed when their
sons/daughters marry a person
with much lower mental capacity,
ambition and moral standards,
yet still manage to have utterly brilliant children.

Happy Mother’s Day!

March/April Consistory Notes

- Reported that the Summer Sunday Schedule was approved by consistory at its March 13 meeting (the Christian Education committee had recommended taking a Sunday school “break” in the summer, but consistory felt we should have Sunday school then too. Consistory opted to have Sunday school and worship one hour earlier: Sunday School 8:45, Worship 9:55 – June through August) Consistory also suggested a continental breakfast be provided at 8:30am each Sunday during the summer. Judy Barnhardt is coordinating the breakfast.
- Approved a newspaper ad (\$295) which will feature our church, on May 1st. The insert, entitled the Changing Face of our Community, will be in the local newspaper and will be featured in a magazine that will be available at the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Center throughout the year.
- Missions Team reported that Family Promise Ministry will begin in July. Thirteen host churches is the goal. Currently, nine churches have committed to being host congregations. A temporary Day Center will be set up at New Life Fellowship, but will eventually go to Second Presbyterian, Kannapolis, NC. Trinity is currently collecting linens for Family Promise. A washer/dryer, refrigerator, freezer, and training for coordinators and volunteers is needed. Trinity is one of nine host congregations.
- Recommendations were made from the Music/Worship Team to the 125th Anniversary committee.
- Kris Monks reported that the youth group met on March 20 for the first time under Dana Etherton’s leadership. They went bowling & had a good turn-out. Kris will be getting with Theresa regarding the music for bible school.
- The Newcomers Team has created Nametags for all members, friends and newcomers. Brian Etherton paid for the nametag materials. The handy boards on which the nametags hang were created by David Bowles. Total cost to Trinity was less than \$35. Nametags make it easier for newcomers to get to know us and to feel “at home.”
- The Bully Shop (next door) was robbed and the door will need replacing. Trinity Church owns this building and is responsible for replacing the door. The tenant hopes to get the door replaced. Trinity will work with the tenant on the costs of the door.
- A leak exists in the sanctuary roof. It needs checking to determine how it can be repaired.
- Security of our building was discussed and No Trespassing signs still need to be purchased (approved November 2004). In order for No Trespassing signs to be enforced by Concord Police, signs must conform to the city code. Signs will be mounted on either side of the Bully Shop and one will be mounted on a post.
- Consistory will meet on May 3, from 7pm – 9pm, to discuss how to act on the findings of the process we conducted with the Center for Congregational Health.
- Treasurer will sell Dupont and Delhaize stocks when funds are needed (approved by consistory last fall). Proceeds will be approximately \$7,000 and will be deposited into the money market account. Trinity’s operating expenses require weekly offerings of \$2,700. Currently, our giving is about \$2,400/week.
- Joellyn & Kenneth Padgett have officially transferred their membership to Mecklenburg Community Church.
- The new church directory will be ready by Mother’s Day.
- Approval was given for an introductory T’ai Chi class in our fellowship hall.
- Approval was given to the 125th Anniversary Committee that includes a proposed timeline of celebrations, a commemorative “throw” (woven blanket with graphics depicting Trinity’s history), and a commemorative Christmas tree ornament. See the report from the committee in the newsletter. *(Continued on next page)*

After approval by consistory, copies of the monthly consistory minutes are available upon request from the church office. Two copies are also placed in the Narthex. Consistory meetings are open to the membership. Debbie Johnson is president. David Puckett is vice-president. Michael Pell is secretary and Dan Barrier is Treasurer. Phyllis Baucom is treasurer for the Memorial and Improvement funds.

Another note of interest: The round tables in the fellowship hall were purchased by the Sisters-in-Christ Circle and the Churchmen's Fellowship of Trinity church. Racks for the tables were constructed, painted and donated by Dana Etherton.

Our administrative assistant of the past eight years, Sallie Staley, has announced her resignation effective May 12, 2005. Sallie came on board with Trinity on March 17, 1997 when Steve Lucas was pastor. Through these eight years, Trinity has experienced some "ups" and "downs," but Sallie's administrative leadership has been very helpful in maintaining continuity throughout the church. She has given of her organizational skills in many ways that most of us never think about. Not only has Sallie often enlisted her husband Ron to help with repairing and painting the church sign as well as offering his technical skills with the computer system, she herself has given of her time over and above the stated hours. Sallie, you will be truly missed. We wish you well in the next path of your life's journey. On behalf of Trinity Church, grace and peace,

Debbie Johnson, consistory president
Nathan King, pastor

An ad has been placed in the local newspapers to fill the position of administrative assistant at Trinity Reformed UCC. Our hopes are to fill this position before May 12, 2005. Applications are being accepted.

Kids' Letters to God

Dear God,
I do not think anybody could be a better God. Well, I just want you to now that I am not just saying this because you are God already.
Charles

Dear God,
Of all the people who worked for you, I like Noah and David the best.
Rob

Dear God,
Thank you for my baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy.
Joyce

Dear God,
I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that okay?
Neil

Dear God,
I bet it is very hard for you to love all the people in the world. There are only four people in our family and I can never do it.
Nan

Dear God,
If you watch me in church Sunday, I'll show you my new shoes.
Mickey

Dear God,
If we come back as something, please don't let me be Jennifer Horton, because I hate her.
Denise

Dear God,
My brothers told me about being born, but it doesn't sound right. They are just kidding, aren't they?
Marsha

Dear God,
It rained for our whole vacation and is my father mad! He said some things about you that people are not suppose to say, but I hope you will not hurt him anyway.
Your friend (but I am not going to tell you who I am.)

Dear God,
I think about you sometimes, even when I'm not praying.
Elliott

Trinity Reformed
UNITED CHURCH
O F C H R I S T

38 Church St. NE
Concord, NC 28025-4756
www.trinityuccconcord.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REMEMBER TRINITY CHURCH IN YOUR WILL AND TRUST



Introductory T'ai Chi Class
Yang Style Short Form

INTRODUCTORY T'AI CHI CLASS

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2005

4 TO 5PM

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

OF CHRIST

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Taught by Gerald Moose

No fee is required, but a freewill donation to
Trinity UCC is welcome

**Second Saturday
Pancake Breakfast**

SATURDAY, MAY 14

7:30AM UNTIL 10:30AM

\$5 ADULTS

\$4 SENIORS

\$3 CHILDREN AGES 4-11







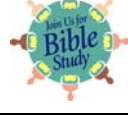

FREE FOR CHILDREN 3 & UNDER



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

MAY

2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 8:00 Churchmen's Fellowship Brkfst 9:00 Hand Bells 10:55 Worship 12:15 First Sunday Fellowship	2 9:00 Morning Circle/Parlor 7:00 Mildred Suther Circle with Dot Kindley 7:00 Family Promise Meeting	3 7:00 Called Consistory Meeting	4 7:00 Chancel Choir Practice 	5 Ascension Day	6 Holocaust Remembrance Day	7 4:00 Introductory Tai Chi Class in Fellowship Hall
8 Mother's Day 9:00 W&A Class 10:55 Worship	9 6:30 "God is Still Speaking" Bible Study 	10 7:00 Sisters in Christ Circle with Ann Rollins	11 7:00 Chancel Choir Practice 	12	13	14 7:30 Second Saturday Pancakes 'til 10:30am 
15 Pentecost Sunday Strengthen the Church Offering 9:00 Hand Bells 10:55 Worship 6:30 Consistory	16 6:30 "God is Still Speaking" Bible Study 	17	18 7:00 Chancel Choir Practice 	19	20 Women's Beach Retreat	21 Women's Beach Retreat No 3rd Saturday Social
22 9:00 W&A Class 10:55 Worship	23 6:30 "God is Still Speaking" Bible Study 	24	25 7:00 Chancel Choir Practice 	26	27	28
29 9:00 Hand Bells 10:55 Worship	30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed No Bible Study	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; background-color: #fce4ec;"> <p>Summer Sunday Schedule Begins June 5th</p> <p>Continental Breakfast ~ 8:30am Sunday School ~ 8:45am Worship ~ 9:55am</p> </div>			