

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

38 Church St. NE  
Concord, NC 28025-4756  
[www.trinityuccconcord.org](http://www.trinityuccconcord.org)  
[www.stillspeaking.com](http://www.stillspeaking.com)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*REMEMBER TRINITY UCC IN YOUR WILL AND*

**Crossroads**  
**May - June 2007**

June Birthdays/Anniversaries continued...

- 20 Addisyn Keen
- 22 Jo Anna Cupp, Clarissa Cline
- 24 Jackie & Adam Friedman
- 25 W.A. Moose
- 26 Leanna Howard
- 27 Krystal Hoyle
- 30 Dana Etherton, Giles Kindley  
Mark & Debbie Johnson

**May - June 2007**

“Never place a period where God  
has placed a comma” —Gracie Allen

**;** God  
is  
still  
speaking,

**REMEMBER**

*Pancake Breakfast*



May 12<sup>th</sup> & June 9<sup>th</sup>

7:30am – 10:30am

*Just for Fun...  
And Peace*

**Peace**

S P L U F T C E P S E R X W O  
 N E J T R P P F F Q M D H S I  
 O A I U T E O I P U M E O V H  
 I C O R O V C L V I L L X V G  
 T E Q P T K D G I E U I A F E  
 A K L H W N M J C T F S D C Z  
 N E E B L O U A I I E K E J C  
 D E W K Q Y R O N L C F D H M  
 E P V Z R I N L C N A S I B F  
 T I K R N S Y L D N E I R F M  
 I N T G B G L L L U P R P F C  
 N G B A S I K E B P D B S F U  
 U T I O U T T B F P N C B L T

<p><b>Calm</b>  <b>Caring</b>  <b>Countries</b>  <b>Dove</b>  <b>Friendly</b>  <b>Manners</b>  <b>Peace</b>  <b>Peace keeping</b>  <b>Peaceful</b></p>	<p><b>People</b>  <b>Polite</b>  <b>Pride</b>  <b>Quiet</b>  <b>Respectful</b>  <b>Solutions</b>  <b>United Nations</b>  <b>World</b></p>
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This page from  
<http://www.abcteach.com/peace/wordsearch.htm>

**May – June  
Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**May**

- 1 Carl & Floryne Misenheimer
- 3 Bobby Hahn
- 4 Dick Cheek  
Samantha Woodward
- 5 Keith Eagle  
Joren Suther
- 7 Mary Bowles  
Tom Columbus
- 12 Bobby Bonds
- 15 Dot Kindley  
Sarah Woodward
- 16 David & Mary Bowles
- 17 Carin Keen
- 21 Dick & Pat Cheek
- 25 Will Howard  
Carl Misenheimer
- 27 Tom & Wendy Columbus

**June**

- 1 William Love 41 yrs at TUCC
- 2 Phil Rollins
- 3 Steve Murdock
- 6 Harold & Eugenia Holste
- 7 Nancy & Clyde Rummage
- 9 David & Teresa Puckett  
Drew Willis
- 11 Bobby & Elsie Bonds
- 12 Louise Moore
- 13 Julianna Willis
- 15 Alexander (Sasha) Dolbun  
Michael Keen  
Roger Howard  
Glenda Love
- 16 Nancy Brewer Sloop
- 18 Brian Cranford
- 19 Ron Barnhardt

*Continued on cover page...*

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**Trinity Reformed UCC**

*Mission Statement*

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**Who we are...**

Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ is an open, loving, growing church committed to welcoming persons of all ages, races, life status, and beliefs, engaging all in worshiping God, and in serving others while seeking to know God's will.

**Our mission is...**

To honor God and celebrate the intrinsic worth of each person as created in God's image.

**We seek to accomplish this by...**

- Engaging members and newcomers in a regular practice of developing spirituality, including private prayer, Sunday worship,
- Proclaiming the Word of God by offering worship experiences engaging worshipers in visual arts, contemporary music, creative movement, drama, mime and clowning, while continuing a strong ministry through a variety of music and preaching of the Word
- Developing a welcoming attitude toward persons who are different and learning to honor these differences as a path to Christian spiritual growth
- Being intentional in inviting others to engage with Trinity Reformed UCC in membership and ministry and publicizing our church's ministry opportunities
- Exploring and discovering our individual gifts for ministry
- Helping others outside our own faith community, careful planning for generous missions support, and making connections through service to others, fellowship in a group and financial stewardship
- Providing opportunities for lay leadership development in the areas of church school leader, worship leadership, consistory service, youth & children's ministries, pastoral visitation, evangelism and spirituality

## Mikayla's Place

By Marion Duncan

Mikayla's Place formed in 2003. The primary focus is to support to children, teens, and young adults with mental and emotional delays. We do not, as of yet, have our nonprofit status; but we continue to try to meet some needs and get more involvement.

There are many foster and adopted children in this area; and these children typically show delays. Our goal is to foster good relationships among children and teens with developmental problems and to meet some social and educational needs. Another cause of these delays is drug abuse and addiction. Another is when children remain in a home that does without the necessities to make life more comfortable.

Mikayla's Place, at this time, places its main focus on children, teens, and adults who suffer the dreaded diseases of poverty and illiteracy. We have regular "giveaways" where we collect and give away clothing and other personal items to those in need. On April 1, we had a "Bean Saved" project and collected beans of any kind and delivered them directly into the home of some of those who live in poverty.

For more info., contact Marion Duncan at 704-788-2342 or [MarionHDuncan@aol.com](mailto:MarionHDuncan@aol.com).

### Office Assistant Sought

Recognizing the need for ministry organization and enhanced communication, consistory has approved hiring a part-time office assistant.

The qualified candidate should be proficient in Word, Excel, database management, filing, managing communication. The position will be advertised by blind ad in the Independent Tribune.

## Consistory Notes

By Nathan King

At its April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, consistory:

- Adopted a timed agenda
- Amended & approved the March minutes
- Accepted the March financial reports
- Approved recommendation from Music and Spiritual Life committees to call the Rev. Marion Rhyne as Minister of Music and Christian Education. Salary of \$1000/month. 10-20 hours per week. Subject to congregational approval May 13
- Committee on committees asked consistory to review its work and make suggestions regarding responsibilities of each committee
- Received written report from pastor and approved July-September as Pastor's sabbatical
- Received Property and Administration report from Don Whitfield. Covered issues of leak in sanctuary roof, HVAC replacement costs, programmable thermostats, gas container in boiler room
- Received an "Offering Counting Instruction Sheet" prepared by Mark Johnson
- Discussed Saturday worship service for persons with mental disabilities
- Suggested clean up/workday for Sat. May 19<sup>th</sup> for cleaning out Sunday school rooms
- Reserving space for TUCC weekend at John's River Valley Camp
- Reported that one year time period has passed for Memorial & Improvement Fund permission from unaffiliated families

Prior to March, consistory approved:

- Retaining the services of Mark Frye, music ministry consultant – fee paid half by anonymous donor and \$250 paid from "Organist Salary" budget line item
- Searching for a Music Director and Organist
- Searching for a Christian Education Director to develop and implement ministries of Christian Education with Children and Youth, particularly in a Children's Worship time program and Sunday church school
- Approved spending for hiring a part-time office assistant for 10-12 hours/week. Position to be advertised in local newspaper

## *Little Feather – Art, Gifts, Jewelry & Other Treasures*



In addition to jewelry, handmade soaps, and art by local artists, **Little Feather**, 42 Union Street South, Concord also has a great selection of women's clothing. Most of the clothing is handmade locally.

The art includes beautiful pottery locally thrown. Jeanne's own art features distinctive "pit fired" pieces, born from a very labor-intensive process detailed in each piece.

Little Feather also stocks a great selection of music for meditation, instruments, incense and BOOKS!

See Jeanne Murdock for details or call 704-786-5005. Even better, **visit the store at 42 Union Street** South and go shopping!

*Congratulations. . . to Andrew and Julianna Willis on the birth of their first child, Grant David Willis. Grant was born on March 26 at 5:12pm and weighed in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces. At the time of birth, he was 20.5 inches tall!*

We extend an extravagant Trinity Welcome to Grant David Willis!

## Calling All Readers!!!

EVERYone reads. Right? That means EVERYONE has books they would like to share with others.

Right? Look no further! Trinity's book exchange is in full swing. Just stop by the box in the Fellowship hall... it's

labeled "**BOOK EXCHANGE.**"

Take a book, leave a book. The books are *exchanged*. That is, the books are given away to each other without charge and without return.



God is still speaking -- and the Southern Conference is listening."

CONFERENCE MINISTER: Rev. Stephen W. Camp

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 216 South Antioch Avenue, Elon, NC 27244

MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 215, Elon, NC 27244-0216

TELEPHONE/VOICEMAIL: 336-222-8771  
FAX: 336-222-8773

EMAIL: [SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org](mailto:SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org)

WEBSITE: <http://www.soc-ucc.org>

# Author Lynne Hinton to Lead Women’s Retreat

By Eugenia Holste

Make plans now to attend the Southern Conference Women’s Retreat **June 15-16** at the Summit Retreat & Conference Center, Haw River State Park in Brown Summit, NC (15 miles north of Greensboro).

The retreat will be “A Gathering of Gratitude,” with 24 hours of worship, enrichment, singing, fellowship and renewal.

The retreat leader is the Reverend Lynne Hinton, an ordained U.C. C. minister, and an acclaimed novelist, columnist and dynamic speaker and motivator.



Among Lynne’s novels are *The Last Odd Day*, *Hope Springs*, *Friendship Cake*, *The Arms of God*, and most

recently, *Down By the Riverside* (under pen name Jackie Lynn).

Lynne is a regular columnist with the *Charlotte Observer*. Get to know her better at [www.lynnehinton.com](http://www.lynnehinton.com).

See Eugenia Holste for more details on the retreat and a reservation form.

to provide for about 87,000 children currently without coverage and not qualified for Medicaid or NC Health Choice (which provides coverage up to 200% of the federal poverty level). Most of them are in families earning more than 300% of FPL. For those in families with incomes between 200% and 300%, the families would pay part of the cost, through premiums assessed on a sliding scale based on income. (In other words, those at 275% FPL would pay higher premiums than those at 225%.) The rest of the costs would be paid by the state. For children in families over 300% of poverty, the family could buy into the health insurance plan but would have to pay the full premium for the insurance, with no subsidy from the state. H 1476 allocates \$4.7 million for FY '07-'08 and \$7 million to FY '08-'09.

The North Carolina Council of Churches has long been involved with obtaining health care for children. The Council was instrumental in setting up the Caring Program for Children, which was a collaborative venture with congregations and Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide insurance for children whose parents didn’t have access to it at work and who didn’t earn enough money to buy coverage for their children out-of-pocket. When the federal government offered money for the Children’s Health Insurance Program, the Council and the heads of our member bodies called on the General Assembly to start what is now NC Health Choice.

H 1476 continues the drive to guarantee that all children have access to the health care they need. *Introduced by Rep. Insko; referred to House Insurance Comm.*

*More information about this and other NC Council of Churches issues can be found at [www.nccouncilofchurches.org](http://www.nccouncilofchurches.org).*

*from the Raleigh Report...*

## Health Insurance for All Children

A bill has been introduced which would make health insurance available to all children in North Carolina. **H 1476, Health Insurance for All Children**, would establish a program

*continued on right...*

## Columbus Boys to Receive “God and Country” Badge

By Nathan King

Congratulations to Tyler, Brycen and Tanner Columbus who completed their work to earn the Boy Scouts of America “God and Country” badge!

Reverend King led two classes in January with the scouts that covered the basics of what we believe as Christians. All three scouts had to recite the Lord’s Prayer from memory and complete home work assignments to satisfy the requirements.

Their badges will be presented in worship on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> (Mother’s Day).

## UCC Celebrates Its First 50 Years!

By Nathan King

That’s right, the United Church of Christ will be “**50 Years Bold!**” on June 24 this year. To mark the milestone, UCC churches in our area are gathering at Holy Covenant UCC in Charlotte (3501 West W.T. Harris Blvd.).

The date is Sunday, May 6, 2007 and the time for the celebration is 3pm. A reception will follow.

The “Let It Shine!” celebration will include combined choirs from Pilgrim Congregational, Holy Covenant, First Congregational – Concord and Trinity. Each church’s choir will also perform an individual musical selection.

One “Shining Moment” from each church’s history will be presented. The offering for the service will be given to The Southern Conference Ministries.

Mark your calendar. Plan to attend. Get directions at [www.hc-ucc.org](http://www.hc-ucc.org).

## Women’s Healing Rhythm Circle

By Jeanne Murdock

Women are invited to join in celebrating the Divine Feminine through West African rhythms and movement meditation. This spiritual exercise is led by Caren Knox-Hundley, a drummer and healer who has been fully trained in traditional rhythms and Reiki healing.

Drums and percussion instruments will be provided. All that is needed is a



willingness to participate and a desire for healing.

Women and girls of all ages are encouraged to attend. The

classes are held on the first and third Sunday evenings from 6:30pm until 8:30pm in the fellowship hall at church.

The intention of the circle is to help heal the fragmentation of the spirit and bring wholeness and empowerment to each woman as she emerges into her true self and heals her relationship with her body through playing traditional rhythms, dance and free movement.

## NAMI Walk May 5<sup>th</sup>

By Jim Cress

Raising awareness is half the battle for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill or NAMI. Mental illness funding is bolstered by walks such as the one on May 5<sup>th</sup> in Winston-Salem, NC.

Jim and Anna Cress are walking to help fund services for persons with mental illness in Rowan and Cabarrus Counties. Give your tax deductible contribution directly to Jim or Ann, or drop it in the offering plate and designate “NAMI” on the memo line.

## Rev. Marion Rhyne considered as Minister of Music and Christian Ed.

By Nathan King

The Music Committee working together with the Spiritual Life Committee has recommended the Reverend Marion Rhyne as Minister of Music and Christian Education at Trinity UCC. Consistory has voted to accept this recommendation and will present Rev. Rhyne for approval by the congregation on May 13.

This call is a step forward for the ministries at Trinity UCC. After delegates returned from a fact-finding mission to United Church of Chapel Hill last November, a direction was set for Trinity to strengthen our ministry with children and youth. Little did we know that a vacancy in the Music ministry would lead to filling both the music needs and strengthening the ministries with children and youth.

Rev. Rhyne has already served Trinity well in music leadership as interim director since January 21<sup>st</sup>. Her credentials and experience directing choirs, writing Christian education curricula, and serving in various capacities in ministry with children and youth make her an excellent choice for Trinity's needs.

Some of her plans include organizing and directing a children's worship time program and leading us in providing more Sunday church school opportunities for a broader age range in the children and youth departments.

Many thanks are due to Debbie Johnson and the Music and Spiritual Life committees for their excellent work.

If you haven't met Rev. Rhyne, please take the opportunity over the next couple weeks to speak to her.

The congregational vote to call her will be Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day).

## Pastor on Sabbatical July through September

By Nathan King

Now in his 7<sup>th</sup> year as pastor, Reverend King will be on Sabbatical July 9 through October 8, 2007.

A pastoral sabbatical is an opportunity for a pastor to work on strengthening his or her spiritual life and to concentrate on projects that are mutually beneficial to both pastor and congregation. Usually this time is spent on educational experiences that can be applied to the pastor's setting for ministry.

Trinity agreed to provide a sabbatical to its pastor after 5 years of service. Nathan said that until now the time has not seemed right to pursue this opportunity.

At consistory meeting in April, Rev. King outlined three components for his sabbatical. First, he would like to complete the candidacy process for the Doctor of Ministry degree he is pursuing with Wisdom University in Oakland, Ca. He has completed 9 of 10 required intensives for the degree.

Second, he would like to complete his 10 required intensive. And third, he would like to write a first draft outlining a dissertation project he would do with the congregation as a way of introducing the principles of Creation Spirituality to the church.

Rev. Harold Holste has agreed to serve as interim pastor during the sabbatical period.

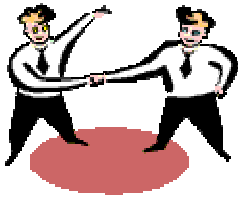
### Trinity Volunteer Office Staff:

General Office.....Kathy Rummage  
 Crossroads Newsletter:.....Julianna Willis  
 Juanita Hathcock  
 Nathan King  
 Worship Bulletin.....Mark Johnson  
 Floryne Misenheimer

**THANK YOU!**

## New Member Sundays

**WELCOME!!!**



Trinity will be open to receive new members on Sunday June 3<sup>th</sup>. Let Pastor King know if you want more information about how to become a member of Trinity United Church of Christ.

## BIBLE STUDY

Topics and discussion are always interesting and engaging for this study, now in its 6<sup>th</sup> semester. For the winter semester, we are following the Sunday worship scriptures (which follow the Revised Common Lectionary). Each Monday evening (we do not meet the first Monday of the month) the previous Sunday's sermon is reviewed and the upcoming Sunday's scriptures are explored pretty deeply.



Interesting questions always arise and we are all learners. We will meet May 14 and 21 then break after May 21<sup>st</sup> until October.

Trinity UCC is proud to offer Hatha Yoga classes. They are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9am and on Tuesday evenings at 6pm. There will be a per-class fee. Contact instructors Robert & Priscilla Ritchie at (704) 782-2936 for more information

## YOGA



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## Talent Show and Spaghetti Dinner – May 12<sup>th</sup>

by Nathan King

Mark the date for a Sisters-In-Christ sponsored Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>! The Circle will provide food. You get to provide the talent – and we use that term loosely.

Sign up your talent in the church Narthex (area just inside front doors).

Proceeds from your donation for dinner will benefit Family Promise of Cabarrus County.

## T'ai Chi Class

By teacher Gerald Moose

Photo by Nathan King

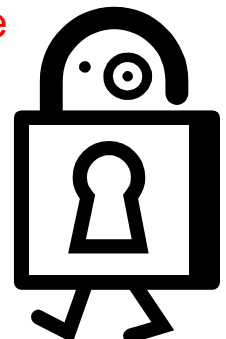
A beginner class has begun. Teacher Gerald Moose is also available for personal instruction on Thursday afternoon at 6pm at Little Feather on Union Street.



Free Introductory Classes are available the first Saturday of each month. This month we'll meet on May 5th. In June the free class is June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The introductory class is at 9am every first Saturday at Trinity UCC

in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Teacher Moose for more information at 704-463-1535.

**Remember to set the security system before you leave the building. Thanks.**



# Trinity Reformed UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



God  
is still  
speaking,

**Crossroads**  
May – June 2007  
volume xiii, issue 2



38 Church St. NE – Concord, NC 28025-4756 – Phone 704.782.1024 & 704.782.0141 – www.TrinityUccConcord.org

## The Pastor's Peace

One day at lunch a few weeks ago the conversation turned to politics. If I had been with family, the wise thing to do would have been to shift the conversation. Besides religion, politics is the greatest source of conversational conflict in families. But this person was not family in the biological sense and I felt relatively safe in discussing my most honest opinions about the subject.

We spoke of potential presidential candidates, some of the pitfalls those possibilities might encounter, opposition, and of course “the war in Iraq.”

After lunch, we said our good-byes. As we parted my friend spoke again. In a Lieutenant Colombo-esque, “Oh and, by the way, one more thing...” way, asked a question that haunts me.

It is not unusual for something to haunt me. Usually it is one of the ghosts from one of my many closets. But this haunting comes from a place more widely deep than just myself. This question haunts me both within and without. It does so because, not only do I consider myself a person of deep faith, I also know myself to be connected with others who hold in common an equally deep belief in Jesus Christ.

This belief in Jesus Christ goes deeper than merely confessing acceptance of Jesus as a human person or even of merely saying, “I believe in Jesus Christ” as we do in the baptismal vows. More than that, I share in common with others who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, acceptance of a serious responsibility to live out my life according to those principles on which my belief hangs.

This means there is a responsibility to come into worship and learn together and deepen myself and one another spiritually. It also means that what I believe must be the foundation from

which I make decisions about how I live in the world.

The first part of that responsibility and those decisions has to do with discipleship, learning to know and follow Christ. The second part of it has to do with justice, transformation of the world into a Realm of Peace, the Kingdom of Heaven, or of God. That is why my friend's question haunts me so.

In our Spiritual Cinema Circle, we watched “Faces of the Enemy,” a PBS documentary about our need to have an enemy. We learned some very helpful things about putting a face on what we consider an enemy and how just having a conversation with the one we identify as “evil” or as “the enemy” can transform the relationship and open up new possibilities for peace and forgiveness.

With that, my friend's question was this: Why are religious leaders – Christian, Muslim, Jewish – not getting together and holding public forums on the war in Iraq? Our voices are strangely silent about this. Even with 64% of the American people raising serious questions about the war, the churches remain silent. Surely a big part of those 64% are in religious groups.

I must admit, I am relieved it was someone else's question. If I raised it myself, my job may be at stake. And that in itself tells the answer to the question. It is interesting that practically every time God appears to humans in scripture with some major transformative work of justice ahead, the first words from the angel's mouth are *fear not...*

That fact says two things. First, scripture attests that God is well aware of how difficult it is for us to move into new works of justice *without fear*. Second, the bible says that God expects us to go into that work *anyway*.

Fear Not,  
Nathan