

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REMEMBER TRINITY UCC IN YOUR WILL AND TRUST

Crossroads July 2007

Trinity Staff Contact:

Rev. Harold Holste 704-454-5172, 704-773-0446

Rev. Marion Rhyne 704-721-4017

mjrhyn@vnet.net

Victoria Kingsley, Office Assistant

704-782-1024

TrinityAssistant@yahoo.com

William Love

704-782-2240

(Rev. King is on sabbatical July 9 – October 8)

July 2007

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



God
is
still
speaking,

REMEMBER

Vacation Bible School



July 9 – 13

6pm – 8pm

(supper at 5:30 each night)

Ages 3 - ???

Closing Worship on July 15, 10:55am

Consistory Notes

- Dana Etherton note of resignation from deacons, Nursery; Brian and Dana have decided to leave TUCC
- May minutes approved
- Financial reports approved – checking balance shows as \$128.00. Accountant says we are not overdrawn. Payment to Pension Board for 2nd quarter already posted.
- \$500 will be added to line #5460 Choral Music and to line for Christian Education as approved by congregation on May 13th.
- Financial report approved with serious concerns
- Pastor's report approved.
- Committee restructuring – Carol Williams to get information from May meeting typed up and will present to July meeting.
- Property report – Don Whitfield – electrical breakers will be checked.
- Programmable thermostats – approved at cost of \$1320, installed by G&S Metal, 4 thermostats. Second floor offices thermostat will be moved to church office or hallway if possible with no trouble. Money to come from Improvement fund.
- Discussion on selecting a treasurer.
- Motion to move \$15,000.00 from UC Foundation Earnings for funding office assistant position and pay for sabbatical pastor. Motion carried.
- Bully Shop rent to be collected on July 1 by Pastor King; August 1 by Don Whitfield
- Report of Pastor Marion – VBS planning; inventory of Christian Education supplies has been done. Need computer/internet capacity for VBS. Pastor King will handle this. Pastor Marion will provide a written report in a format of her choosing. She requests sermons be taped.
- Sound system – Mark Johnson will speak with David Bowles re: the listening devices do not appear to be working some Sundays.
- Discussion on finding replacements for Dana Etherton as deacon and possible candidate for class of 2010.
- Report on office assistant search.

Next meeting: July 15th, 6:30pm. Don Whitfield will have devotions.

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST *MISSION STATEMENT*

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, 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

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

Engaging individuals and our faith community in helping others outside our own faith community, careful planning for generous missions support, and making connections with school children and their families that meet their needs

Our Covenanted Ministries...

Trinity UCC is a member of The Western North Carolina Association of The Southern Conference, United Church of Christ. Our national offices are in Cleveland, Ohio. The Southern Conference office is now located in Burlington, NC. Our church's newspaper is The United Church News. Below are the addresses and other contact information for our wider church.

Rev. John Thomas, General Minister
The United Church of Christ – National Office
700 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
216-736-2100
www.ucc.org

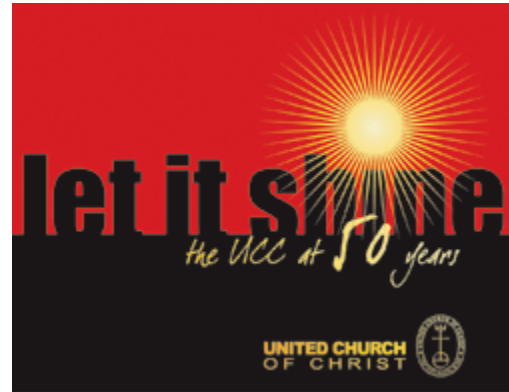
Rev. Steve Camp, Conference Minister
The Southern Conference – UCC
252-B West Fifth Street
Burlington, NC 27215
336-222-8771
www.soc-ucc.org

Rev. Larry Walser, Associate Conference Minister
The Western North Carolina Association – UCC
P O Box 4265
Salisbury, NC 28145
704-633-3191
office@wnca-soc.org

Subscribe FREE to:
United Church News
www.ucc.org/ucnews/
or call, 1-800-363-0575

Our General Synod met June 22-26 in Hartford, CT where our church celebrated our 50th Birthday as the UCC! The link below takes you to the video archive where you can see and hear keynote addresses by Bill Moyers and Barak Obama, Marian Wright Edelman and Lynn Redgrave. These are all members of this great church!

Let it Shine, Y'all!
<http://www.ucc.org/synod/video-archive.html>



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. In June, we had another giveaway to folks living in poverty. Thanks to all who helped!

For more info., contact Marion Duncan at 704-788-2342 or MarionHDuncan@aol.com.

WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES

General Synod 26 A Spirit-Filled Experience

By Carol Williams

*For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
Matthew 18: 19-21*

What about when nearly 10,000 are gathered together in a group? The spirit of the Lord was most definitely in Hartford, CT for General Synod 26 from Thursday, June 21 through Tuesday, June 26 as I experienced my first General Synod.

The spirit of the Lord was everywhere as the biennial Synod was extended this year to celebrate the 50th birthday of the United Church of Christ. And what a celebration it was. Synod in the City was held Saturday which allowed those attending an eclectic way to discover who we are through voices, wisdom, worship, art, music, dance, etc. There was so much going on one had to really narrow down just what you wanted to experience and then go for it. In each and every thing I experienced, I could feel the spirit of the Lord.

The business of Synod was conducted all of the other days. Prior to presentation to the synod, the 17 resolutions went to committees where the nuances of the resolutions were discussed and respectfully debated. Committees worked extremely hard and decisions were made in the most prayerful way. When resolutions were presented, parliamentary procedure was amazing to experience at this level. Throughout these events one could feel the spirit of the Lord.

Oh, the worship services. I have never experienced communion for nearly 10,000 at one time. I did not expect to be so profoundly affected in such a large worship setting. I was moved by each and every worship service. The closing service on Tuesday night began with an anointing service where from individual to individual we anointed each other with oil and prayed for the risen Christ's presence in our travels. What an emotional, spirit filled experience.

On Sunday morning I worshiped at Faith Congregational in Hartford where our conference minister, Stephen Camp, delivered the message to his home congregation. Faith is where Steve attended church as child and where he was ordained as a minister. The congregation was celebrating men's Sunday and what a spirit-filled service it was. The church was sincere in its extravagant welcome and the spirit of the Lord was with us.

What brought me to Hartford is my role as a member of the board of directors for Local Church Ministries (LCM) representing the Southern Conference. LCM is one of four covenanted ministries of the UCC whose purpose is to support congregations in the fulfillment of God's mission. The six-year commitment brings me to Cleveland, OH at least twice a year for board meetings. Though this is a sterile description of our work, my experience with the board thus far has also been as equally spirit-filled as the experience at General Synod.

In the words of my fellow board member from Hawaii, "How does one put five days of activity in one page...the bottom line is that one needs to be there to experience the still speaking God in all of His extravagance." Check out www.ucc.org where the UCC did a wonderful job archiving events. Among others, you'll find my favorites - Senator Obama, Marian Wright Edelman, Lynn Redgrave, and the Children's Orchestra Society.

Throughout my General Synod journey, the spirit of the Lord traveled with me. The General Synod committee did an awesome job of coordinating movement of so many people between venues via shuttle busses. I found most of the time though that I just needed to walk with God as I prayed for and listened to the Still Speaking God who was with me for every step of my journey.

Website Manager Needed

With Dana Etherton's leaving, Trinity is in need of someone to manage our website. Each week, the site must be updated to include information for visitors to the site. Please let Pastor King know ASAP if you can do this well. Thanks to Dana for doing this beautifully, and well, the past 3 years.

Our Founding Family:

Re-discovering the Ancestors of
Judaism, Islam, and Christianity Building
Bridges, Exploring Our Story
An Interfaith Summer Camp for
Christians, Muslims, and Jews

Our Founding Family is
about understanding. It is
about sharing. It's about
learning.

This summer, together with
area teachers of all three faiths,
rising second- through sixth-grade
children will explore the stories of
our founding family. Abraham,
Sarah, Hagar, Ishmael and Isaac.
We'll tell their stories from each of
the three faith traditions we
represent. We'll taste food, sing
songs, and craft colorful and lasting
projects that demonstrate both the
unique contributions of each faith
and their many shared beliefs.

Reverend Marion Rhyne,
Minister of Music and Christian
Education at Trinity Reformed
United Church of Christ, **Dr.**
Barbara Thiede, UNC Charlotte
Dept. of Religious

Studies, and **Dr. Kathryn**
Johnson, professor of Islamic

Studies at UNC Charlotte are co-
creating this exciting program. Their
interfaith efforts will be aided by
musicians, teachers and volunteers
of all three faiths. We hope to make
the program **FREE** for all
participating children, and for that
we need your help. Please consider
making a donation. You can send a
check to McGill Baptist Church (just
put "Our Founding Families" in the
memo line, please!)

Area business and
congregations of all kinds can also
support our program with donations
that will support this amazing
interfaith effort.

And if you have a child you
think might be interested in
attending, please, let us know by
calling the contact number below to
register your child. We will take the
first ten Christian, Muslim, and
Jewish children who apply!

[Download a flyer \(PDF\).](#)

[Download the registration form
\(interactive PDF\)](#)

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!

Moving Around with Trinity...

Grace Puckett is in Pennsylvania at a Summer Intensive Dance Camp and will be there for the next four weeks. Please pray for her as she is dancing 20+ hours a week and has mandatory seminars that she must attend. This is a goal she has wanted and worked for over the past year and a-half which will help her improve her dance technique and get her closer to her overall goal of having a career in dance.

Send Grace your notes of encouragement at:

Grace K. Puckett: CPYB c/o Kate Dickenson College; 204 Adams Hall College and Louthers Streets P. O. Box 1773 Carlisle, PA 17013-2896

Pearl Kobylarz called to check in. She was in Bradford, PA. She’ll be in New York state, then Detroit before returning.

Pam King has joined Holy Covenant UCC, Charlotte, NC, where the Rev. Dr. Nancy Allison is pastor.

Rev. Marion L. Rhyne was installed as our Minister of Music and Christian Education on May 13th. Marion and clergy spouse, Jerry, will be joining Trinity UCC on July 8th. Jerry is currently serving as Stated Supply Pastor at McKinnon Presbyterian Church on Church Street in Concord. Their membership will be transferred from Holy Covenant UCC, Charlotte, NC.

Churchmen’s Fellowship will meet again Sunday, September 2nd at 8am for breakfast in the fellowship hall.

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 7/6 Juanita Hathcock
- 7/6 Jim Cress
- Floryne Misenheimer
- 7/10 Bobby Eagle
- 7/14 Eric Woodward
- Cindy Rummage
- 7/15 Kathy Hinson
- 7/18 Cyndy Ellis
- John Duncan
- 7/19 Ann Rollins

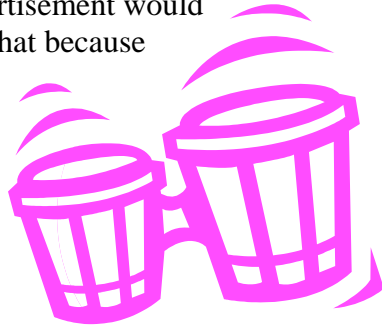
Anniversaries

- 7/6 Wyatt & Lib Moose
- 7/25 Nathan King’s 14TH Year Ordination
- 7/27 Brian & Dana Etherton
- 7/28 Charlie & Cathy Therrell

Women's Healing Rhythm Circle

By Resa Treadaway

When Nathan asked me to write something for the newsletter about the drumming sessions, my first thought was to write an article similar to an ad. I then starting to think about what this drumming group meant to me. An advertisement would not suffice. First, let me say that because of attending this drumming group, I felt the need to visit Sunday services to see what Trinity was all about. My husband, Sam, and I have now been attending for 10 months, and we love the service and the people.



The drummers meet in the Fellowship Hall every 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings. When I enter the room, I am greeted by women and girls of all ages with smiling faces and warm embraces. What a wonderful start... love from all. These women (both young and old) come from various backgrounds, cultures, and religions. We are all here to feel and share the spirit of our own rhythm through the playing of the drums. The chairs are placed in a circle, the lights dimmed, and the inner circle candle is lit. We breathe deeply - and we drum the spirit of life, the spirit of peace, the spirit of our soul. Like the colors of the rainbow, each culture has its own hue - yet each is a part of the whole. We break the circle to leave, but as we depart, we know we are united through the spirit of the drum.

Peace be with you.
Resa Treadaway

Women's Healing Rhythm Circle

Drums and percussion instruments provided...

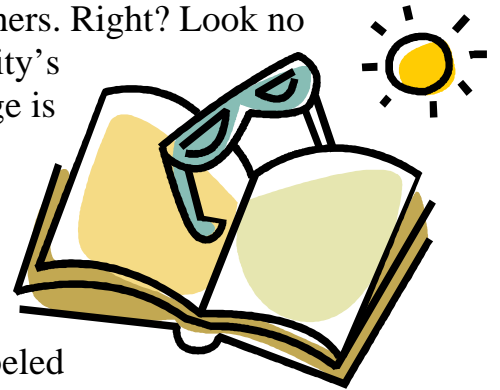
Women and girls of all ages are encouraged to attend.

The first and third Sunday of each month

Trinity United Church of Christ
38 Church Street NE Concord, NC
6:30 - 8:30pm

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.



MORNING CIRCLE meets the first Monday at 10am in the Parlor (Lower Level). This month's meeting is July 2nd. No meeting in August, then September 3rd.

BEAR ROCK SUNDAYS... eat at Bear Rock Café – Carolina Mall – on July 15th and August 19 (Pastor King's birthday), and 20% of your total purchase will be donated to Trinity UCC! So plan on lunch after church and/or dinner at BEAR ROCK!

Notes from Pastor Marion

Labyrinth Walk - July 8, 2007, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ

The labyrinth - a journey - a place of pilgrimage - a place for healing - a place for transformation - a place to pour out your grief - a walking prayer - a walking meditation - a walk with God.

This ancient spiritual practice found in many spiritual traditions and cultures throughout the world allows the mind, body and soul to come together and be with the spirit within. It connects the inner world with the divine world.

The labyrinth, which is believed to have evolved out of the spiral figure found in all of nature, is much like the journey of life with its many twists and turns. There is no special way to walk the labyrinth. You go in at the beginning, walk to the center, stay there as long as you care too, and then walk out.

The labyrinth will be used in Vacation Bible School. It will be set up on Sunday afternoon and will be open to the church and the public from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Marion Rhyne, the Minister of Music and Christian Education, is a certified labyrinth facilitator and will be present to facilitate the walk.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School, July 9 - 13, Closing Program is Worship, Sunday July 15, God's Path for God's People - Worship

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is an exciting time during the summer for the church. It engages people of the church and their gifts with the young people of the church and the community.

This year we explore five facets of worship, praise and thanksgiving, confession, telling God's story, prayer and meditation, and offering using arts, music, computers, story telling, liturgical dance, and the labyrinth.

The theme, "Teach me your path" from Psalm 25:4 will be imprinted on a stepping stone. Our mission project will be a baby quilt painted and put together by the young people. Our offering will be to Heifer International. Many exciting things to do.

Supper will begin the evening at 5:30 p.m. Our thanks to the groups who will be feeding us.

Monday: Sisters in Christ

Tuesday: The Rummage Family

Wednesday: The Brotherhood

Thursday: The Morning Circle

Friday: Bobby, Elsie and Rose

Opening begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

There are still a few openings for helpers. We still need: a "stepping stone specialist", a computer specialist, a painting facilitator (paint in the paint cups, paper is on the easel, etc.), a teacher for a self-contained lower classroom.

Won't you please help? Thanks to those who have already offered to help.

Rev. Holste to serve as interim during sabbatical July 9 – Oct. 8

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

Rev. Harold Holste has agreed to serve as interim pastor during the sabbatical period. Rev. Holste will be in the office 2, half-days each week.

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.

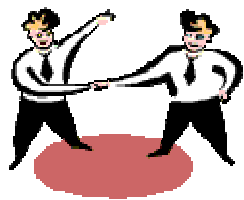
At consistory meeting in April, Rev. King outlined three components for his sabbatical. First, he would like to complete the candidacy process for the Doctor of Ministry degree he is pursuing with Wisdom University in Oakland, Ca. He has completed 9 of 10 required intensives for the degree.

Second, he would like to complete his 10th 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.

Contact Pastor Holste at home 704-454-5172 or, cell phone 704-773-0446.

New Member Sundays

WELCOME!!!



Trinity will be open to receive new members on Sunday July 8th. Let Pastor King know if you want more information about how to become a member of Trinity

United Church of Christ.

YOGA

Summer Schedule

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 is a per-class fee.

The summer schedule is as follows:



Robert & Priscilla Ritchie

- Tuesday July 24th @ 6pm
- Thursday July 26th @ 9am
- Tuesday July 31st @ 6pm
- Thursday August 2nd @ 9am
- Tuesday August 7th @ 9am & 6pm
- Thursday August 16th @ 9am
- Tuesday August 21st @ 9am

Contact instructors Robert & Priscilla Ritchie at (704) 782-2936 for more information

Spiritual Cinema Circle will meet again in October. Recently, the group closed for the summer with *Ushpizin!* a moving Jewish film about showing hospitality to strangers (guests) and the childless wait for God's impregnation.

Spiritual Cinema meets on Wednesdays at 6pm.

Dream Process Group

Ever had a dream and woke up wondering what it meant? Come to the Dream Process Group and we'll explore the possibilities. Our process is based on Jungian archetypes and the collective unconscious. We all share some of the same hopes, dreams and desires, therefore we can learn from each other's dreams.

We meet on Mondays from 7:35pm -9pm. While Pastor King is on sabbatical, we will meet at the home of Dee Oglesby. For directions to the Oglesby house, contact Dee at doglesby@carolina.rr.com.

T'ai Chi Class

By teacher Gerald Moose

Photo by Nathan King

Trinity's T'ai Chi continues on Thursday evenings.

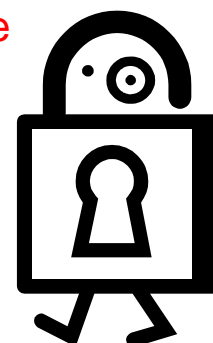
Two classes are offered on Thursdays, one at 7pm and one at 8pm. Teacher Gerald Moose is available for review from 6:30pm – 7pm on Thursdays.



Free Introductory Classes are available the first Saturday of each month at 9am in Trinity's Fellowship Hall. This month we'll meet on July 7th. In August the free class is August 4th.

Introductory classes are also offered on the first Saturday afternoons at The Bed and Bike Inn in Richfield. 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

July 2007

volume xiii, issue 3



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

Welcome Victoria Kingsley Trinity hires new office assistant

At its spring retreat in March, the Consistory outlined major priorities for the next few years. One of those was calling a new Minister of Music and Christian Education. A close second was hiring an Office Assistant. The search has ended.

The consistory commissioned Mark Johnson, Judy Barnhardt and Pastor King as a personnel committee to advertise, conduct interviews and hire for the position. A blind ad was placed in the Independent Tribune at a cost of \$265.00. It ran for ten days. A total of 9 resumes found their way to the committee. Of those 9, the committee selected 5 for interviews.

Members of the committee were very impressed with the four candidates with whom interviews were conducted and would well have recommended any of these women for the position. One interviewee, upon learning the preferred office hours, ended her interview.

Welcome Victoria Kingsley as our new Office Assistant at Trinity. Ms. Kingsley has experience with office organization, software applications that Trinity uses, as well as experience with Quicken and Quickbooks – accounting software that should help us with managing our finances and check writing. Her regular presence in the office will provide for more efficient communication.

Her summer office schedule is Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10am – 3pm. After August 19, her schedule will be Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am – 3pm.

Victoria lives in Concord with her husband, Jack Witherspoon. She enjoys quilting as a hobby. They have five children and three grandchildren.

Victoria began work on Wednesday, June 27th – her birthday. Ms. Kingsley requests that information for the bulletin and newsletter and other church communication be emailed to TrinityAssistant@yahoo.com. Information can be phoned to 704-782-1024 during office hours.

Thank You, Volunteers!

By Nathan King

It is with deep gratitude for the service of volunteers that we welcome our new office assistant. For the past two years, Mark Johnson has taken care each Wednesday to compile bulletin information into a format for our use in worship on Sunday mornings. Floryne Misenheimer has faithfully folded those worship bulletins and plans to continue doing so. Judy Barnhardt makes sure Floryne gets the bulletins. Dot Kindley ensures that they arrive on time for our Sunday services.

Julianna Willis has formatted and edited the initial drafts of Crossroads, our monthly newsletter for the past 2 years. Juanita Hathcock has collated, folded, stamped and mailed the newsletters amid set back after setback.

Kathy Rummage has retrieved the mail, sorted our bills, and routed mail to the appropriate party. She has come into the office at least once a week since January 2006 to make sure checks were written to pay our bills on time. She communicated with our accountant in Locust, NC by fax, email and phone calls to help keep the finances in order and up to date. She has answered the phone, checked the messages, answered emails, made coffee and has been a pleasing voice in the office.

During this strained financial period in our history as church, I am deeply aware and appreciative of those who take on new responsibilities, adding to their already busy schedules, and find the time to give a little more energy and effort to the church's structure. You are the ones who serve with distinction often only for the joy of knowing you are contributing to the good of the whole.

I count it an honor and a privilege to work as pastor for such a group of volunteers. You are a blessing.

On behalf of the consistory, the membership and friends of Trinity UCC, please accept our sincerest thanks for keeping the office going the past two years.

Nathan