



## The Pastor's Peace

This comes via email from Jim Cress.  
Author unknown

I am a mother of three (ages 14, 12, 3) and have recently completed my college degree. The last class I had to take was Sociology. The teacher was absolutely inspiring with the qualities that I wish every human being had been graced with. Her last project of the term was called "Smile." The class was asked to go out and smile at three people and document their reactions.

I am a very friendly person and always smile at everyone and say hello anyway, so, I thought this would be a piece of cake, literally. Soon after we were assigned the project, my husband, youngest son, and I went out to McDonald's one crisp March morning. It was just our way of sharing special playtime with our son. There was a stir in the morning's large breakfast crowd. I turned to find out why, and as I turned around I smelled a horrible "dirty body" smell, and there standing behind me were two poor homeless men.

As I looked down at the short gentleman, close to me, he was "smiling". His beautiful sky blue eyes were full of God's Light as he searched for acceptance. He said, "Good day" as he counted the few coins he had been clutching. The second man fumbled with his hands as he stood behind his friend. I realized the second man was mentally challenged and the blue-eyed gentleman was his salvation. The young lady at the counter asked him what they wanted. He said, "Coffee is all Miss" because that was all they could afford. (If they wanted to sit in the restaurant and warm up, they had to buy something. He just wanted to be warm).

Then I really felt it - the compulsion was so great I almost reached out and embraced the little man with the blue eyes. Instead, I smiled and asked the young lady behind the counter to give me two more breakfast meals on a separate tray. I then walked around the corner to the table that the men had chosen as a resting spot. I put the tray on the table and laid my hand on the blue-eyed gentleman's cold hand. He looked up at me, with tears in his eyes, and said, "Thank you." I leaned over, began to pat his hand and said, "I did not do this for you. God is here working through me to give you hope."

I started to cry as I walked away to join my husband and son. When I sat down my husband smiled at me and said, "That is why God gave you to me, Honey, to give me hope." We held hands for a moment and at that time, we knew that only because of the Grace that we had been given were we able to give.

That day showed me the pure Light of God's sweet love. I returned to college, on the last evening of class, with this story in hand. I turned in "my project" and the instructor read it. Then she looked up at me and said, "Can I share this?" I slowly nodded as she got the attention of the class. She began to read and that is when I knew that we as human beings > and being part of God share this need to heal people and to be healed.

In my own way I had touched the people at McDonald's, my husband, son, instructor, and every soul that shared the classroom on the last night I spent as a college student. I graduated with one of the biggest lessons I would ever learn: UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE.

Peace,  
Nathan

## Mission Opportunities

### Family Promise

Check out our redesigned website!

<http://www.familypromisecc.org>

We are looking for community leaders, professionals and volunteers to help us fill our board and committees. Specifically we are looking for doctors, dentists, lawyers, CPAs, social workers, etc. If you are interested in lending your talents to a good cause, or if you know someone who might be, please contact Dana Etherton at 704-503-4156 or [dletherton@yahoo.com](mailto:dletherton@yahoo.com)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is one our most important gifts. It is always amazing to see how our prayers lift one another in difficult times. Often,



prayer brings healing when no other hope is possible.

Let your requests for prayer be known by writing them in the **Trinity Prayer**

**Book**, located on the register desk in the **Narthex**. Requests will then receive attention during our prayer time in worship that day.

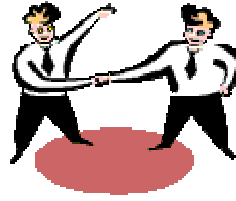
*Remember...*

**Our 125th Anniversary  
Homecoming  
September 24<sup>th</sup>  
10:55am**

And bring a lunch to share for a covered dish luncheon after worship

## New Member Sundays

### WELCOME!!!



Trinity will be open to receive new members on Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> Let Pastor King know if you want more information about how to become a member of Trinity United Church of Christ.

### *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 offers pottery classes.

With a pottery wheel in the shop, individuals may sign up for personal instruction. Cost is \$10 per session which includes instruction, glazes and firing of your ware. Clay is \$20 for a 25 pound bag.

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

# First Sunday Fellowship



No "First Sunday Fellowship" in September. Perhaps there will be refreshments with the Book Exchange following worship on September 10<sup>th</sup>!

## Spiritual Cinema Circle Hosts *Emmanuel's Gift*

The Spiritual Cinema Circle views films that have a spiritual message. After each film, we have time for discussion.

Right now we are watching *What the Bleep Do We Know: Down the Rabbit Hole*. Also, we will be watching *Indigo* and the newly previewed *Conversations With God*, a movie



based on author Neale Donald Walsch's book series by the same name, and his journey from homelessness to best selling author.

**Spiritual Cinema Circle meets each**

**Wednesday before Choir rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. Join us!**

## SAVE THE DATE



Trinity's Johns River Valley Campground Family Weekend will be **OCTOBER 20 - 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

You can camp with us in a tent, cabin or in the comfortable camp dorm-style building. Make the date sacred on your calendar!

## Trinity Reformed UCC

### 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,
- 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

## CHURCHMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

All men and boys are welcome to attend the churchmen's fellowship breakfast scheduled on the first Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall. Our next meeting will be Sunday, **September 3rd** – at 8:00 a.m. **Men, make plans to attend!**

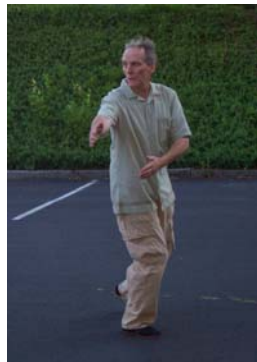
**October Meeting is  
October 1<sup>st</sup>**

## T'ai Chi Class

By teacher Gerald Moose

Photo by Nathan King

The advanced class of 7 students has completed over a year of the form. A new 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 – September 2 and October 7 – for those who want to know more. The introductory class is at 8am every first Saturday at Trinity UCC in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Teacher Moose for more information at 704-463-1535.

## Pastor King is on vacation August

**28-September 4.** For pastoral emergencies contact Bobby Bonds at 454-7742 or Harold Holste at 454-5172.

## BIBLE STUDY

The Fall 2006 Still Speaking Bible Study will continue the theme of "The Scriptures that Trouble Me Most." If there is a passage from scripture that troubles you, let's give it some attention in the fall. The fall 2006 study will be on Mondays (except first Monday of the month) from 6:30pm until 7:30pm, **September 11th** through November 27th. We will not meet on October 30th.

## Women's Healing Rhythm Circle

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



willingness to participate and a desire for healing. Women and girls of all ages are encouraged to attend. The

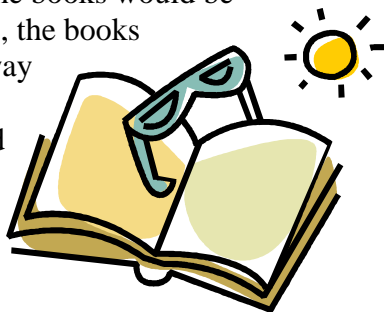
classes are will be held on the first and third Sunday evenings from 6:30pm until 8:30pm in the fellowship hall at church.

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.

# Calling All Readers!!!

EVERYone reads. Right? That means EVERYONE has books they would like to share with others. Right? Interest has been expressed in having a BOOK EXCHANGE at Trinity. The idea is to come together periodically, maybe once or twice a month, and exchange books with each other. The books would be *exchanged*. That is, the books would be given away to each other without charge and without return.

The book exchange begins September 11<sup>th</sup>.



## Leadership Training Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup>

Group's Church Volunteer Central presents MULTIPLY YOUR MINISTRY: Moving From Sitting to Serving – a Workshop for Church Leaders.

Who should attend? Pastors. Youth and Childrens Ministry Leaders, Consistory Leadership, Committee and Team Members. Whether you are a long-time leader or new to the leadership role, you will walk away with practical tips and fresh ideas to help move Trinity UCC into serving ministry.

Usually to take advantage of this workshop, leaders have to travel to Charlotte or Greensboro. But, Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, this workshop comes to Concord, NC! The workshop is hosted by Concord Christian Church on Poplar Tent Road.

This affordable workshop will help Trinity move into greater structure and organization for the ministry to which we are called. Clear your calendar. Let's go as a team of 4 or 5 from Trinity UCC. Costs are based on number from our church.

For more information contact Pastor King. Also, check it out at [www.group.com/cvclive!](http://www.group.com/cvclive!)

## Pictorial Directory Update

Our new pictorial directory should arrive by September 22<sup>th</sup> – in time for our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming.

## Still Speaking Items are on sale:

- Red Comma lapel pins \$3
- Bumper stickers \$1
- Writing pens \$1
- Coffee mugs \$6

See pastor King for these items. They are a great way to advertise our church!

Shirts and other items are available at [www.stillspeaking.org](http://www.stillspeaking.org).

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



## YOGA

Trinity UCC is proud to offer Hatha Yoga classes. They will be 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) 792-2327 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\***Pam King presents the Children's Message in September**\*\*\*\*\*

## Homecoming is September 24<sup>th</sup>

Much needs to be done before our annual homecoming this September. After all, this is no ordinary homecoming. This is our **125<sup>th</sup> Year Homecoming!!!**

The Fellowship Hall needs a good cleaning. The floors need stripping and waxing. The outside yard needs to be cleaned up – particularly on the Bully Shop side.

The Property Committee and the Churchmen's Fellowship will take the lead in this preparation, but more help is needed. Contact Keith Eagle or Lewis Eddings about how you can help with making the building and grounds ready for our Homecoming Celebration!!

### Women's Self Defense Course

Ever find yourself afraid as you walk to the car at night? or as you return home alone? Jeanne Murdock is gathering interest in a Women's Self Defense Course. This course would be taught by a trained expert and would teach women how to physically defend themselves against predators. For more information contact Jeanne at [littlefeather@ctc.net](mailto:littlefeather@ctc.net).



### Bible Study and Dream Group Return September 11<sup>th</sup>

The **Monday Bible Study** returns on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We will pick up where we left off in June with "**The Scriptures that Trouble Me Most.**" If you have a "troubling biblical passage" Pastor King would like to know so we can give attention to it in bible study.

The **Dream Process Group** just began to really get interesting when we broke for the summer. Now with new tools and a few great books on dream symbols, we're ready to get into our sub-conscious more deeply. The group will be open for the first few weeks so get started with us on September 11 if interested.



Crossroads – Trinity

The Dream Group always agrees to guidelines of anonymity, and to confidentiality when requested by a group member.

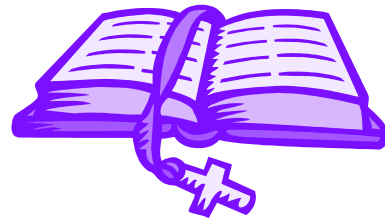
## September Nursery SCHEDULE



September 3<sup>rd</sup> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
September 10<sup>th</sup> VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
September 17<sup>th</sup> Dana Etherton & Zach Monks  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Grace Puckett & Vol. needed

PLEASE HELP – VOLUNTEER FOR THE NURSERY!

## SEPTEMBER LITURGISTS



September 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann Rollins  
September 10<sup>th</sup> Mark Johnson  
September 15<sup>th</sup> Anna Cress  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Jim Cress

## We Welcome You Here

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...we **welcome** you here.

In September, Trinity's consistory set a goal of 12 new families engaged in Trinity's ministries in 12 months – **12 Families in 12 Months.** To date, in 11 months we have received 9 new families as members.

Keep inviting your friends to Trinity and keep a friendly smile ready for those who come!

## Live the Vision!

The entire Conference is invited to "Live the Vision: A Day of Worship, Renewal and Equipping" on **September 23** at First Christian in Burlington, NC. We will gather at 10:00 am and conclude with worship at 2:00. **Alan Miller is our keynote speaker.** We will join together in our commitment to our Capital Campaign and to the future life of our Conference. Each church has received registration forms. Please return these as soon as possible so that we can reserve a seat at lunch for you and prepare materials to be distributed.



## North Carolina Council of Churches

### CRITICAL ISSUES SEMINARS:

Mark your calendars now for two regional seminars that will focus on **health care**. **September 30** at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Asheville and **October 26** at Calvary United Methodist Church in Durham. For program details, [click here](#). To register online, [click here](#). Alert others interested in this event by [downloading a flyer here](#).

## Sound System in September: Zach Monks

(Please see Theresa Woody-Rhodes regarding rehearsals for Homecoming Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup>).



Neighbors In Need Offering is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>

### Neighbors In

**Need** expresses the United Church of Christ's commitment to ministries of justice and compassion in the United States and Puerto Rico, as we speak prophetically to those in power and advocate for the voiceless. In the spirit of Christ, we seek to confront evil in the world and to alleviate suffering through justice advocacy and direct service. Sunday, October 1, is the suggested date for the Neighbors In Need special mission offering.

### Grant recipients.

**Neighbors In Need** supports ministries that address poverty, economic development, human rights, peacemaking, violence, racial and economic justice, environmental concerns, and public policy advocacy.

Please give generously October 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information visit:

<http://www.ucc.org/nin/>

**Our Acolyte in September is  
James Barrier!**

## Women's Circles

The Morning Circle meets at 10am on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Mildred Suther Circle meets at 7pm on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Sisters in Christ Circle meets at 7pm on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**We welcome new members!**

## September Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 3 Theresa at TUCC 6 years  
Dale Ray & Ellen Cathcart**
- 5 George Smith**
- 8 Theresa Woody-Rhodes**
- 13 Louis Morris Jr\***
- 22 Ray Monks  
Jim & Anna Cress  
Ray & Kris Monks**
- 25 Travis Hoyle  
David Ray**
- 29 David Morris  
Dan & Katherine Barrier**

## MUSIC NOTES

### HOMEcoming SEPT. 24

Forces are gathering for our 2006 Homecoming service, and for the special music that day. Variety in music is the plan, and excitement is in the air already, with the choir practicing a brand new anthem written by our music director, Theresa Woody-Rhodes. In "Limitless Love," two texts particularly appropriate to the UCC have been combined: one from the Book of John (17:21-23) and the other an adaptation of a poem by the 13th century mystic, Hildegard von Bingen: "Limitless love, from the depths to the stars... Flooding all, loving all... Ah, love... The royal kiss of peace" (adapted from a translation by G. Uhlein). The anthem features choir, organ, piano, cello, violin and percussion, as well as speakers reciting scripture in different languages. Come to the world premiere, and bring a friend!

### CALLING ALL SINGERS

Our Christmas music has arrived from the music store; we've begun learning it. Now is the time to join the choir if you've been thinking about it, and to come back, if you've taken time off this summer. As usual, there's a lot of extra music to learn, and a lot of fun to be had. Choir practice is at 7:00 on Wednesday nights. See you there?

### CALLING ALL RINGERS

Handbell practice should begin Sunday, September 10, at 12:20 following our church service. We should follow last year's every-other-week schedule. We'll begin the Fall season with something simple to play on September 24, our Homecoming service. Theresa will be calling you if you've rung before.

Please call her if you read music and would like to give ringing bells a try. 704 895 1630 (evenings or lunch-times are best for phone calls; Theresa teaches piano lessons many mornings and every afternoon).

# 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>

[SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org](mailto:SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org) is managed by the SOC Staff for Southern Conference communication enhancement. Please feel free to forward email messages along to other who are interested and supportive of the Southern Conference UCC.

Additional subscribers are welcome. To change an email address, please respond to [SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org](mailto:SOCNEWS@soc-ucc.org).

## Quilt Show

The Cabarrus Quilters Guild invites you to a quilt show on Sat./Sun. September 23/24 at the Cabbarus Arena and Events Center – 4751 Hwy. 49 North, Concord, NC.

The guild is selling chances on a quilt to be

To be given away. The quilt has been made by the quild. Tickets are \$1 per chance. Fifty per cent of the proceeds will go to the important ministries of the [Cararrus Victims Assistance Network](#).

Contact Jo Anna Cupp for more information at 704-795-2734.

## August Consistory Notes

- † Postponed decision on Live the Vision! Southern Conference Capital Campaign
- † Trinity will inform Family Promise that we are preparing to be the first Host Congregation for that ministry – probably end of October 2006
- † Property Committee will inspect church signs in parking lot
- † Approved Memorial/Gifts Cmte. request for funeral pall, with provisions
- † Property Committee is researching feasibility of purchase/installation of an ice maker in kitchen area
- † Approved request to begin book exchange September 10<sup>th</sup>
- † Approved use of Fellowship Hall for 3 Yoga Classes led by Robert and Priscilla Ritchie. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am, Tuesdays 6pm
- † Approved procuring commemorative prints of old building/present building for Anniversary

Next Meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Eugenia Holste will have devotions.

### Trinity Volunteer Office Staff:

General Office.....	Kathy Rummage	Crossroads Newsletter:
Worship Bulletin.....	Mark Johnson	Julianna Willis.....
	Floryne Misenheimer	.....Editor
		Juanita Hathcock .....
		.....Mailing
		Pam King.....
		.....Copy Editor

THANK YOU!

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 TRUST*

## Crossroads September 2006

### September 2006

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

’ God  
is  
still  
speaking,

Crossroads – Trinity

REMEMBER

**HOMECOMING**

SUNDAY

**SEPTEMBER**

**24th**