

From the Pastor's Desk

The Western NC Association annual meeting was held October 23, 2004, at 1st UCC, Salisbury. It was a very smooth meeting. No resolutions were presented. High Country UCC, a thriving new church start in the Boone, NC area, was officially received as a member church in the WNCA, Southern Conference, United Church of Christ. The Reverend Shelly Wilson is the founding pastor of High Country UCC.

The Reverend Larry Walser was installed as the new WNCA Associate Conference Minister. Larry gave a stirring sermon about “spilled milk” and the abiding presence of God, even in the midst of our family squabbles. Rev. Walser and his wife, Sandi, are buying a house in Salisbury and hope to be settled in soon.

The Reverend Steve Camp, Southern Conference Minister, reported a favorable financial outlook for the conference. He strongly challenged the churches who are withholding financial support for Our Churches Wider Mission to keep covenant by restoring their financial contributions to that ministry.

Ms. Ellen Abilino, from Spoon's Chapel UCC, Asheboro, NC, presented a lot of helpful information and photos celebrating Vacation Bible School. Spoon's Chapel averages about 85 in worship. Last summer their VBS enrolled over 110 kids! It is time to be planning to help with VBS at Trinity for next summer. Ellen listed www.CTAinc.com as a good place to find a VBS planner.

The Reverend Kristen Gerner reported on the mission trip made by eight UCC'ers from Western NC Association to assist our missionary in Guatemala, Pablo Picher. Earlier this year, Trinity contributed \$1000 to the

ministry of Pablo Picher in Guatemala. Other mission trips will be organized for the spring. Are there persons at Trinity who could make such a trip?

The Reverend Curly Stumb celebrated Southern Conference Outdoor Ministries and Tom Benedict made a presentation for Black Lake Retreat Center's fundraising campaign. He also presented architectural drawings for the planned lodge. Black Lake's campaign goal is \$400,000, an amount pledged to be matched if attained.

About the box...Debbie Johnson took “the red box” full of Our Churches Wider Mission money from Trinity to the WNCA meeting, unopened of course. Debbie (as clown) also led the WNCA annual meeting in receiving the boxes. The conference will count the money and this will be reported at the Harvest Ball on November 5th. Reports are circulating that ENCA's and EVA's red OCWM boxes have raised over \$10,000. What will ours be?!

Pearl Kobylarz was our delegate. If you have questions about the meeting I, Pearl, Debbie, Pam King, Jim Cress, or Harold Holste would be happy to talk with you about the meeting.

Peace,
Nathan

First Sunday Fellowship

First Sunday Fellowship will be Sunday, November 7th in the fellowship hall following worship. Remember to take a friend with you to the 10:55am worship service and then to go downstairs to the fellowship hall after worship. There will be light wholesome snacks with our fellowship.



Circles

The Morning Circle will meet on Monday, November 1 at 10:00am at the home of Lucille Hiatt.

The Mildred Suther Circle will meet on Monday, November 1 at 7pm at the home of Dot Kindley.

The Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00pm at the home of Pam King.

The circle has started a **Clothing Drive**. They are looking for your clean and gently-used clothing. Boxes are in the parlor labeled "Women and Children" and "Men". The women and children's clothes will be given to CVAN (Cabarrus Victim's Assistance Network). The men's clothes will go to another charity. This will be an ongoing mission project, so whenever you clean out your closets, take your clothes to Trinity. Collection boxes are located outside the parlor.

Churchmen's Fellowship

The Churchmen's Fellowship will meet on Sunday, November 7th at 8am for the regularly scheduled first Sunday breakfast meeting.

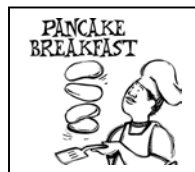
The Churchmen's Fellowship members will once again be smoking Thanksgiving hams and turkeys for a nominal cost of \$10 each. Take your meat to the church kitchen on Tuesday, November 23 anytime between 5:30 and 7:00pm. Pick-up will be the following day, Wednesday the 24th, from 5:00 to 7:00pm. For more information and/or details, contact Lewis Eddings at 704.857-7814.

Second Saturday Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, November 13, 2004
Time ~ 7:30am until 10:30am

Volunteers Needed

- 4 Cooks – arrive at 6:30am
- 2 Cashiers – arrive at 7:15am
- 4 for Clean-up – arrive at 10:15am
- 4 for Set-up – Friday evening 6pm
- 5 Servers – arrive 7:00am



A SIGN-UP SHEET IS LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX

Family Promise

Look for training sessions to begin at a later time. This information will be publicized in the Sunday bulletins.

Our Gifts, Attendance & Service

2004 Budget	\$ 164,310.02
Needed to Date	123,233.00
Offering to Date (as of 10/24)	115,030 .00
Average Attendance	70

Children's Message

Debbie Johnson

Sound System

Ray Monks

Acolyte

Tara Farnham

Maintenance

Brian Cranford & Keith Eagle

Liturgists

- 11/7 TBS
- 11/14 Debbie Johnson
- 11/21 Gina Pell
- 11/28 Pearl Kobylarz

Nursery

- 11/7 Leanna Howard
- 11/14 Pam King
- 11/21 Dawn McHale & John Roberts
- 11/28 Floryne Misenheimer
& Elizabeth Wagner

Advent Wreath Participants

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28 and continues through Christmas Eve. Anyone desiring to participate in the advent wreath lighting is asked to contact the church office.



Memorials

In memory of Kenneth Folkes, given by Mr. & Mrs. K. C. Cline

In memory of Dr. Robert Delp, given by James & Carol Walker, Margaret Bell, Mrs. Theron Rinehart, Frances R. Cruger, Boyd & Mary Lee Delp

October 10th Consistory Meeting Notes

Present for the October 10 meeting were Dan Barrier, David Bowles, Debbie Johnson, Nathan King, Pearl Kobylarz, Kris Monks, David Puckett and Phil Rollins. Members not present were Robin Drake, Lex Graham, Sheila Mahaffey and Dawn McHale.

- After discussion, the financial reports were approved. Follow-up on possible incorrect postings will be done.
- The Missions Committee will meet on October 19.
- First Sunday Fellowships are continuing to happen every month.
- An anonymous donor has offered to purchase a "God is Still Speaking" banner which has been ordered.
- Pastor King cited a new Newcomer's program, created by the United Methodists, which is a 10 week program. A study indicates that 40% of area newcomers are unchurched.
- It was reported that K.W. Arthur had been contacted concerning a roof leak over the sanctuary and the education wing.
- Debbie Johnson reported that she had unsuccessfully attempted to contact Keith Eagle about the "No Trespassing" signs. It was agreed that we need the signs and the police authorization to patrol our property.
- David Bowles and Phil Rollins reported that the new sign for the planter was progressing nicely.
- It was reported that Phyllis Baucom is responsible for the Memorial & Improvement funds. Pastor King provided information he had gathered concerning the Memorial funds and policies. He also provided a flowchart for review. It was agreed that he would make some modifications to the chart and bring back for further review, and will continue to work to devise criteria and guidelines for use of these funds. A list of "projects" needs to be compiled for possible fund designation. A list of the designated monies currently in the Memorial Fund will be gathered.
- A delegate from TUCC needed to be selected to represent Trinity Church at the Western Association annual meeting to be held on Saturday, October 23. Issues facing the delegates are: There are twenty-five churches withholding funds from the Association. These churches are presenting two resolutions 1) that the 1983 resolution be reaffirmed, 2) Changed the requirement to modify the By-laws with a simple majority rather than the current 2/3 vote. A resolution also exists to request the 25 churches, which are withholding funds, to leave the association. There will also be nominating committee recommendations for the Board of Directors and other committees and commissions.
- The Deacons & Elders are compiling a list of possible and eligible candidates for the offices of Elder and Deacon. Persons are to be contacted to determine if they would be willing to serve *if* nominated.
- Other team nominations will be addressed at the next Consistory meeting.
- Modifications were made to the proposed budget prepared by the Deacons and Dan Barrier. The amended budget was approved and will be presented to the congregation.
- The Pastor's report was postponed due to the lateness of the hour.
- The next meeting will be held on Sunday, November 21.

Why I attend Trinity

by Dana Etherton

I found Trinity by searching for a church on the UCC's website. The first Sunday that I attended Trinity, I was invited to lunch after church, to the women's circle meeting that week, and to play in the annual golf tournament the next weekend. I keep coming to Trinity because I have found a church family that is caring and supportive. The spiritual message is relevant in today's world and is presented creatively.

Concord Interfaith Conversation

The Concord Interfaith Conversation's next program is entitled *Finding Abraham, Father of our Faiths* and will be held on Sunday, November 14, 2004 at 7:00pm at St. James Lutheran Church. Revered Nathan King, minister of Trinity United Church of Christ and Dr. Barbara Thiede, Director of Religious Services for Havurat Olam will ask how we use various sources to understand the father of our faiths. Discussion will follow.

Recommended reading prior to the program includes:

<http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=360&letter=A&search=Abraham#872>
and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham>

The Concord Interfaith Conversation was born in the spring of 2004 in the hopes of establishing a warm and open atmosphere for local faith communities to begin sharing ideas with one another. The CIC consists of the following communities: Central United Methodist Church, St. James Luther Church, First Presbyterian Church, Trinity United Church of Christ, and Havurat Olam, Cabarrus County's first Jewish congregation.

At What Cost?

A woman complained to her friend, "Our church costs too much! They're always asking for money!"

"Look at it this way," her friend replied. "When my son was born many years ago, he cost us quite a bit of money. He continued to cost us money as he grew older – money for clothes, shoes, food, bicycles, doctors, college and more. But we didn't mind, because he gave us so much joy and more in return. Then in his senior year at college, he died, and since his funeral he hasn't cost us a penny. Which situation do you think I prefer?"

"As long as our church lives," she concluded, "it will cost us. When it dies from lack of support, it will no longer cost us a thing. But what will we have? I'm going to vie and pray with everything I've got to keep it alive and well."



Thanksgiving

CCM Wish List

Crisis Center Needs

- △ Shop Vac for Warehouse
- △ Food Pantry Volunteers to work Friday Mornings & Friday Afternoons in Pantry
- △ Drivers to do food "pick Ups" at area grocery stores

*To volunteer, contact Joyce Berry Biles
at 704.786-4709 ext. 13.*

Food Pantry Needs

- △ Canned Vegetables, except green beans & black-eyed peas)
- △ Canned Fruits
- △ Canned Meats
- △ Canned Spaghetti
- △ Plain Macaroni or Noodles
- △ Rice
- △ Small Jars (18oz.) of Peanut Butter
- △ Sugar

Shelter & Soup Kitchen Needs

- △ Disposable Razors & Shaving Cream
- △ Toothbrushes & Small Tubes of Toothpaste
- △ SUGAR!!!

*Items may be taken to CCM at 246 Country Club Dr.,
Concord, Monday-Friday from 9am to 4pm*

"Committed to Creative Compassion"

CVAN Auction & Celebration

This year, CVAN is celebrating its 13th Auction and Celebration on Saturday, November 13, 2004, 7:00 to 11:00pm at The Oasis Temple at University Place. There will be getaways, parties, jewelry, art, tickets, holiday items, homemade desserts and more. The silent auction begins at 7pm and the live auction and festivities begin at 8:30pm. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres & beverages. Tickets are \$36 each. Please call 704.788-1108 to make your reservations.

Trinity United Church of Christ

38 Church Street NE
Concord, NC 28025-4756
704.782-1024 & 704.782-0141
Rev. J. Nathan King, pastor



September 2004

In an effort to reduce operating costs and in being good stewards with our finances and our environment, beginning in January, 2005, Trinity's monthly newsletter and calendar will be emailed instead of bulk mailed through the US Post Office. The newsletter and calendar are also available on Trinity's website at www.trinityuccconcord.org.

If you have not already done so, you will need to download and install Adobe Acrobat Reader. This is a FREE download and will assist you in viewing Trinity's monthly newsletters on the website and in the monthly mailings. You will find Acrobat Reader by clicking the following link:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

Please remove this page from this newsletter, complete the following information, refold it for Trinity's address to show and return it to Trinity Church so our records may be organized for this up-coming change. You may also email your reply to sstaley46@yahoo.com.

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**November Birthdays and
Wedding Anniversaries**

- 2 Bernie Edwards, Trevor Padgett
- 5 Hazel Morris !
- 7 Brandon Drake, L.W. Earnhardt
- 9 Madalyn Howard*
- 10 George Smith III
- 12 Charlie & Katherine Vartanian †
- 14 Wayne & Cathey Bridges †
- 15 Nellie Suther
- 16 Dawn McHale, Graham Puckett
- 17 James Barrier, Jeremy Hoyle, Teresa Puckett, Diane Seaford
- 18 Ellen Cathcart, Brian* & Kimberly* Williams †
- 20 Kenneth Padgett
- 21 Cameron Monks, Ira Osipchik*
- 22 Brian Etherton
- 24 Shane & Dawn McHale †
- 25 Kelly Stewart
- 26 Frank Stinson !

**Second Saturday
Pancake Breakfast**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

7:30AM UNTIL 10:30AM

\$5 ADULTS

\$4 SENIORS

\$3 CHILDREN AGES 4-11

FREE FOR CHILDREN 3 & UNDER



EVERYONE WELCOME!