



# The Trinity Portal November 2011

## Concord Citizens to See Trinity UCC on Nov. 19

**The Concord Holiday Parade** is Saturday, November 19 at 2:30 pm, for 2.5 miles, followed by Thanksgiving dinner at church at 5 pm. The Concord parade route starts on Church Street, turns on Buffalo Ave. and goes down Union Street, finishing at Corban Avenue.

We need 25 kids and adults to sign up to ride in November. We need single individuals, families, and couples. Riders will be on the pickup truck as well as on the float. We need six adults to walk and give out wrapped candy (such as Tootsie Rolls, Bubble gum, Suckers) and free pancake breakfast and dinner tickets to the crowd. Bob Saylor needs names and contact information of everyone who wants to ride or walk: 704-239-7342 or [bchs3201@aol.com](mailto:bchs3201@aol.com).

The pastors and their spouses will be seated in the real sleigh pulled by a motorcycle through a cloud of balloons. "It makes no difference how you get to Trinity, you will always be welcome," says Saylor.

Parade participants are asked to wear an "I Am Trinity" T-shirt or sweat shirt in many different colors. Contact Cindy Rummage at 704-213-2216 or [cindyrummage@yahoo.com](mailto:cindyrummage@yahoo.com) before Nov. 12.

We need park benches and eight pieces of 2X4' lumber. A large 3X4 foot Comma will be at back of float. A cloud of Balloons will surround the float. We will need help on the 18th to blow up and tape the balloons together at John Maze's house.

Monetary donations would be appreciated to Trinity UCC marked PARADE to pay for the decorations and truck.

Our float theme is "Love is Love" —whether it is between parents and children, a man and a woman, two people of the same gender, or friends, or close and distant relatives.

The **Kannapolis Parade** is Saturday, December 10, at 6 pm, 1.5 miles. The float will have spot and flood lights.

Members on the planning committee are Bob Saylor, Anna Marie Reickert, Cole Lindberg, Kathy Park and Cindy Rummage.

Volunteer today to introduce Trinity to the community! We are part of a social action and social justice faith community. Let's all get involved in this parade float to show our neighbors what Trinity UCC stands for.

# Human Trafficking Is Modern Slavery

By Rev. Jerry Rhyne

The human rights issue, human trafficking and sexual assault, was the topic of a three day conference I attended. Did you know that sex trafficking is now overtaking drug trafficking in terms of money earned from the commodity and victims of sex trafficking? Though I know you probably realize that the majority of victims are women and girls. One speaker who survived and escaped from her bondage said that the life span of victims is four years. Most die from a combination of drug overdose, physical injuries, untreated sexually transmitted diseases and psychological harm. Hearing personal stories of victims makes one sick. It has driven me to become involved with a Charlotte area ecumenical Task Force in addressing the issues of domestic violence and human trafficking.

A definition of human trafficking is “the recruitment, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining of any persons for forced labor, slavery or servitude in any industry including agriculture, construction, prostitution or sexual exploitation and manufacturing. Some are traffic for organs and body parts. This is a serious issue. The majority of the 12 million victims of trafficking are women (80%) and children (20%) whose labor and bodies are bought, sold and moved world-wide. Jesus grounded his ministry in the scriptures’ call to repair economic and social relations – “to proclaim release to the captives\_ \_ \_ \_ \_To let the oppressed go free”. (Luke 4:18-19) Followers of Jesus today are called to address the violations of human rights that cause trafficking. General Synod 27 (2009) passed a resolution that was “a call to awareness and action to end the practice of trafficking in persons”.

How can you make a difference? 1) Learn about human trafficking! The UCC Justice and witness ministries have many resources. The summer edition of COMMON LOT devoted the entire issue to human trafficking. Another source is the Polaris Project. [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org). 2) Pray for trafficked persons. 3) Make discussion about modern slavery a part of your worship and educational life. 4) Support advocacy campaigns. Observe National Human Trafficking Awareness Day each year on January 11.

Copies of fact sheets on human trafficking are on the literature table in the Narthex. I am available to talk with you personally or to a group.

## Music & Art for Children

Young Choristers meet at 3:30 on Wednesdays in the third floor choir room, followed by a snack in Room 102 and Art in Action time. This is a way to eliminate an extra trip each week and save on gas. The Choristers are learning to read music and also practicing songs for Christmas. Art in Action helps students learn about famous artists and cultures. Students have studied Zuni Kachina dolls, Kandinsky, Van Gogh, and Renoir’s work. The children’s art gallery is in the hall downstairs.



Eugenia Holste on the left was Event Planner and Site Coordinator for the **Southern Regional Meeting of United Church of Christ Women** at Blowing Rock, October 7-9, 2011. Jo Anna Cupp on the right served as the Conference Nurse. Bonnie Schell and Alane Holste chose from workshops on women’s health, relationships, nutrition, fitness, caregiving during the last days, self-care strategies, immigration, spiritual formation, mental illness, and end of life conversations.

Seventeen women came up from FL, 20 from GA, TENN, and AL, and 24 from NC.

The theme scripture was “Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.” from Proverbs 3:7-8. Sin, it is written, shrivels the skin and dries up the marrow of the bones.

## Quiet Your Mind and Body Counsels Trinity's Faith Nurse

By Joanna Cupp

The seasons are changing and fall is in the air, A time of the year that I love but it can be a stressful time of the year, School is back in session, there is homework after school activities one child goes one way the other goes in the opposite direction, Halloween is gone, Thanksgiving is around the corner, then here comes Christmas. This can all pile up and cause a lot of stress.

Stress can also lead to many other things High BP, stomach pains, headaches, ulcers and the list grows. Let's think about reducing the stress in our lives. I can hear you say "sure and how am I suppose to do that?"

I do not have all the answers, but here are a few suggestions: Listen to soothing music on the way to work instead of the news, find a few minutes in your day to deep breath, and calm your mind. Taking a few extra minutes a day to quiet your mind and body can reduce your stress. This can be while you are waiting for the children to get out of school or when you first get up in the morning before every one else does.

A restful night of sleep is also helpful in reducing stress. Exercise can relieve tense muscles, improve sleep and increase your energy. A walk in the park on these beautiful fall days is good for the body and the soul. Stay connected with family and friends, and also your spiritual life is vital in coping with stress.

Take a few minutes for yourself and reconnect with your faith It will help relive stress and give you peace in your life.

**LOCAL GROUP HOME NEEDS LARGE AND EXTRA LARGE SIZE VESTS, JACKETS AND COATS FOR ADULTS. Bring to Pastor Marion.**

**The next Our Father's House** to sleep and feed and greet families who are homeless is December 18 to 24, Christmas Eve. Let Debbie Johnson know if you can help with supper, spending the night, setting up and taking down beds. 704-795-1523

## Green Beans and Sweet Peas Needed by CCM in November

By Barry Porter, Foods Service Coordinator, Cooperative Christian Ministry, Concord, NC. 704-786-4709 Ext. 822.

Our food pantry special needs are:

Green Beans

Sweet Peas

Corn

Ramen Noodles

Rice

Pasta Items

Canned Tomatoes & Mixed vegetables

Canned Meat including Vienna sausage

Plastic Grocery Bags (used or unused. We use 350-500 a day)

At Trinity, bring your donations to the basket on the left side of the altar down front. 91 pounds of canned goods and paper products were taken to CCM the last week in September from Trinity. CCM served 1,362 households in September. The CCM Crisis Center in Concord serves as the warehouse for most of the food.

*"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to /for one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." —Matthew 25:40.*

## Carol Williams-Swoope Challenges Congregation to Fill up the Altar with Canned Goods November 1-13.

Donations will go to CCM as part of UCC's Mission 1 to commit 11 days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice with letters to congress. National UCC's goal is to collect 1 million items of food and more than 11,111 letters and \$111,111.

See [www.bread.org/ol/2011](http://www.bread.org/ol/2011)

## **Victims of human trafficking can be found in:**

- Commercial sex, particularly during Charlotte conventions and conferences in hotels
- As nannies or servants
- Sweatshop factories-NC chicken processing
- Janitorial and Restaurant services
- Farming or landscaping
- Fisheries
- Panhandling



## Consistory Will Need Two New Deacons and Elders by December

Two deacons and two elders will have served their terms by December 2011 and will need to be replaced. If you are interested in serving or have suggestions for candidates, see Carol Williams Swoope. 704-213-2215 cell



## Trinity UCC Has Sunday Education Program for Adults and Children

Teachers at 9:30 are:

**Tara Bingle:** Preschool/Kindergarten

**Jo Anna Cupp:** Grades 1-5

**Ken Swoope:** Grade 6 and up

Need someone for nursery, below preschool.

**Wendy McConnell** is the substitute teacher.

**Pastor King:** Adult class in Fellowship Hall

**Wyatt Moose, Eugenia Holste and Lorna Col-**

**son:** Adult Class in Room 204

During Worship when children leave after the anthem: Danielle Stingel does Grades 1-3; Pastor Marion Grades 4—Confirmation. The Nursery is staffed by rotating members of congregation. Charlene Baker comes three times a month with creative activities for the nursery.

## Trinity Church Directory

### Pastor Nathan King

Office Hours: Mon. to Wed. 10 am to 2 pm. He may be reached at other times at 704-224-1653 and at king.mysticnathan@gmail.com.

### Associate Pastor Marion Rhyne

**Minister of Music and Christian Education:**

Mjrhyne@vnet.net 704-721-4017

### Administrative Assistant: Danielle Stingel

Tues-Thurs. 10 to 2 pm. **Charlene Baker** on

Fridays 10 am to noon.

Trinityuccoffice@gmail.com

### Organist: Michael Leggett

Phone: 704-640-1334

**Custodian: John Maze** 704-782-0082

**The Trinity Portal Editor: Bonnie Schell,** 704-786-8101, Bonniebelle@mindspring.com

**\*\*\*Website: need volunteer to work on this.**

### Southern Conference Minister:

216 Antioch Avenue, Elon, NC 27244

## Consistory Leadership

**Debbie Johnson, President**

**Matthew Cummings, Vice President**

**Bonnie Schell, Secretary**

**Jim McNutt, Chair of Deacons**

**Alane Holste, Treasurer**

**Todd Adrian**

**Eugenia Holste**

**George Smith, Sr.**

**Pearl Kobylarz**

**John Maze**

**Ken Swoope**

**Don Whitfield**

**Bobby Eagle**

**Pastor Marion L. Rhyne**

**Pastor J. Nathan King**

If you have any concerns or suggestions for the betterment of the church, please talk to a Consistory member. They meet the 2nd Sunday of the month after church.

- 5 Hazel Morris**
- 7 Adrian Robinson**
- 10 George Smith III**
- 14 Cathey & Wayne Bridges**
- 18 Ellen Cathcart**
- 18 Kimberly & Brian Williams**
- 22 Sarah Duncan**
- 23 Natalia McNutt**
- 24 John Maze**
- 24 Rev. Marion Rhyne**
- 25 David Ratchford III**
- 27 Annabelle Woodward**
- 29 Judy Barnhardt**

We are a social action, social justice faith community, open and affirming, welcoming and supportive of all people. We believe taking the Bible seriously means it cannot always be taken literally. We follow the teachings of Jesus, worship God, and seek to be faithful to the way of Christ - alleviating suffering, oppression and injustice, feeding hungry people and housing families that have been displaced, seeking Jesus' way of peace.

We know that God's love embraces all persons equally, no matter their age, gender, race, life status, beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

If you are searching for a way and a place of deepening spiritual experience and practice, come in and make yourself at home.

We welcome all persons to join us in worshipping God and serving others while seeking to know God's will more fully.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, we welcome you into the full life and ministry of our church.

**Send a Card to Our Shut-ins**

Bob Suther, Eden Gardens of Concord, 1501 Zion Church Rd., Concord, NC 28025

Elizabeth (Lib) Moose, 650 Camrose Circle, Concord, NC 28025

Edith Folkes, Country Manor, 3300 4th Ave, Conway, SC 29527

Floryne Misenheimer, 661 Forest St. NW, Concord, NC 28025-4339



On October 30, the children and youth choirs performed "Are We There Yet?" with the chancel choir. The musical chronicles the calling of Moses, the resistance of Pharaoh, the journey to the promised land from Egypt, the complaining of the Israelites in the desert. The story was brought to life with the narration of Debbie Johnson, hand puppets, and drums.

# Pastor King Signed Call Letter for Justice among the Poor

Dear Members of the NC Congressional Delegation,

As religious leaders in North Carolina representing many denominations and faith traditions in our great state, we urge you to use all of the opportunities you have for input with the nation's Super Committee to prevent requiring further sacrifices from poor and vulnerable people in our state and nation. In Proverbs 31:8-9, we are reminded to "Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy."

With 14 million people unemployed (450,000 North Carolinians) and poverty rates rising in our state and nation (Feeding America reports that 18.2% of North Carolina's people are food insecure), we must prioritize creating jobs and assisting those most in need.

As leaders in North Carolina's faith community, we call for the protection of Medicaid and all food assistance programs such as SNAP and WIC as well as tax incentives and programs for low income people (EITC, unemployment insurance, etc.) that generate economic growth. The Interreligious Working Group on Domestic Human Needs reports that:

Every \$1 of SNAP benefits generates \$1.73-\$1.79 in economic growth.

Every \$1 in refundable tax credits, like the EITC and child tax credit, generates \$1.26 in economic growth.

Every \$1 dollar of unemployment insurance benefits generates an estimated \$1.63 in economic growth.

We encourage the use of revenue producing options and reductions in wasteful defense spending as ways to reduce our deficit. The burden of deficit reduction should not be borne by programs for poor and vulnerable people who are now struggling and are not in a position to sacrifice more. We acknowledge the challenges the Super Committee faces as they develop a plan by Thanksgiving that will reduce our deficits by \$1.5 trillion. However, as you make recommendations and communicate with members of the Super Committee, we strongly urge you to protect assistance for poor and vulnerable populations.

Our budget is a moral document; may it reflect the common good and priorities that help people in need in North Carolina and our nation.

Sincerely,

Rev. J. George Reed, Executive Director of North Carolina Council of Churches  
Rev. Collins Kilburn, Executive Director Emeritus, North Carolina Council of Churches

## Statement about Occupy Wall Street

The UCC's five person Collegium of Officers issued a statement in October about the Occupy Wall Street movement, urging members and churches to "seek the common good as a church and in society through creative vision, faithful action, and prayer." See [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

## Grammatical Mistakes And Typos in Church Bulletins

Irving Benson and Jessica Carter were married in the church Saturday. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast.

Potluck Supper Sunday—prayer and medication to follow.



Pastor Marion, Ann Marie, Angelina, Corey, Charlene and Nicole assemble for the CROP Walk. Photo by Rev. Jerry Rhyne who also walked. The group raised \$196 in pledges to alleviate hunger.

God is still  
speaking,



TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF  
CHRIST

38 Church St. NE  
Concord, NC 28025-4756

Phone: 704-782-1024  
Email: Trinityuccoffice@gmail.com  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*God is still speaking,  
Catch the comma.*

November 2011

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.TRINITYUCCCONCORD.ORG  
AND FACEBOOK

“We have moved through the open doors  
in hope of finding a place of belonging.”



Clean up your book shelves. We need children's and youth books for those who come to our Free Pancake Breakfasts. History, romances, biographies and humor are popular with guests at our Community Dinner. Brose yourself and find some treasures.