



The Trinity Portal September 2011

Community Ice Cream Social is Saturday, Sept. 17th

The free Homemade Ice Cream Social (ICS) & Community Dinner is September 17, 2011, a Saturday, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Trinity parking lot. There will be stage music entertainment, a silent auction, barbecue sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad and vanilla and orange-pineapple homemade ice cream, and an old-fashioned Cake Walk.

If you have friends who have a music group or play and sing, call Carl Tosi at 704-723-6787. There may be a brass quartet!

To help set up tables and chairs at 2 p.m. and help clean up, call or see Trinity's scripture reader, Ethel Fowlkes, at 704-792-2698.

To donate unusual, beautiful or useful items for the Silent Auction, contact John Maze and leave in church office the 11th or 16th.

Tickets are available at church the 11th to give to your friends.

If you still want to order a Trinity Tee shirt, call Cindy Rummage.

From Pastor King

A Word About *the* Anti-Marriage Amendment...

At Trinity UCC we decided nearly 18 months ago that we are a church that believes in love between a man and a woman, or a woman and a woman, or a man and a man. We also affirmed that we believe some people are born bi-sexual and others are in transition to becoming a different gender or have become transgender persons. We said we believe all people are created in God's image and I am proud that we did this. The Jesus we know from the gospels is one who cares about and loves the outcast and the voiceless and we participate in the body of the Christ when we stand on the side of those Jesus stood with and loved. We said we believe LGBT persons are created in God's image.

Unfortunately, not all who are Christian believe in this God of Equality. (Go to page 3, left)



September 11th– Busy, Big Sunday

After worship, the Home-made Pineapple-Orange and Vanilla ice cream making begins! Go get some fast food or bring a lunch and come downstairs so we can make ice cream together. Bring an apron and gallon containers with lids for storing the ice cream. We need 14 ice cream freezers.

Items Still Needed for Sept. 17

3 large jars of dill pickles
5 pounds of bacon
2 pounds of brown sugar
1 jar of molasses
5 gallons of iced tea to church by 2 p.m. on 17th
2 containers of chicken Bouillon
4 extra large bags of potato chips
5 large bottles of Sweet Baby Rays Vidalia Onion BB Sauce
5 large bottles of Sticky Fingers Smoke House Carolina Sweet BB Sauce
5 19 oz. bags plain M&M's—need on 11th
13 lemons for tea
10 Homemade cakes in boxes for cake walks and prizes and auctions on the 17th
15 lbs of any kind of frozen beef.

Church will be open at 6 p.m. on Friday Sept 16 to bring supplies in. Leave message for Bonnie 704-786-8101 when you have bought some supplies or are making cakes. Six cakes so far!

Cyndi Hall and **Kathy Park** are making all the potato salad and supplying the ingredients. Thank you!

Nancy Rummage will make the baked beans with the help of Cheryl Anderson, following Bob Saylor's bulk recipe.

We need outdoor extension cords. Put your name on them. Bring on 16-17th.

Contact Bob (704-239-7342) or Cindy (704-213-2216 cell) if you have questions or want to volunteer.

Spiritual Cinema starts back in September—every Wednesday night downstairs from 6-8 pm.

The Sacred Arts Group meets September 20 at 7:15. p.m. This month the group is meeting at Pastor Marion's to make candles. 704-721-4017

CROP Walk is Oct. 16. See Pastor Marion

Vacationing Choir Reveals Super Talented Congregation

The choir took a much needed vacation from weekly practice and performance in August. They got to sit in the pews for an entire month, a different point of view.

On August 7, our organist, Michael Leggett revealed that he has a beautiful voice and talent as an arranger with his piano and voice version of "To God, Give Praise and Glory!"

On August 14 Matthew Cummings with his pure, mellow voice brought us the prayer "Give Me A Clean Heart."

August 21, Carl Tosi on flute and Michael Leggett on piano performed an amazing duet of "Lord of the Dance."

On August 28th, Matthew Cummings and Rose Edwards sang an animated "He Touched Me." On Sept. 4, Carol Williams Swoope sang the moving "Here I Am, Lord."

Choir practice begins again on Sept. 7.

When we share laughter, there's twice the fun;
When we share success, we surpass what we've done.

When we share problems, there's half the pain;
When we share tears, a rainbow follows rain.

When we share dreams, they become more real;
When we share secrets, it's our hearts we reveal.

If we share a smile, then our love shows;
If we share a hug, then our love grows.

If we share with someone on whom we depend,
That person becomes family or friend.

And what draws us closer and makes us all care,

NC Legislative News: Medicaid and LGBT Marriage at Risk

This year's NC legislative mandate is to cut approximately \$356 million in state Medicaid funding, but the changes won't go into effect until April which means a larger reduction in patient services than if the cuts were spread over the entire fiscal year. Medicaid provides medical care and some in home services for those who are blind, fragile seniors, or have physical or behavioral, substance addiction, intellectual or developmental disabilities such that they can't work.

(The Anti-Marriage Amendment continued)

An amendment has been proposed to the NC Legislature that would exclude many in our congregation from ever considering being married in our state. These proposals (SB106 and HB777) are actually anti-marriage, although publicized as anti-LGBT marriage. Rather than allowing that marriage is between two people who love each other, these bills would restrict who can be married in our state. They do not allow more people to be married. They withhold marriage from some. These bills would give preferential treatment to some citizens, but withhold those rights, freedoms and benefits from others. In effect, these bills write *discrimination* into our constitution.

As a person of Christian faith, I simply cannot imagine that this would be pleasing to the Jesus I know and whose inclusive ways I seek to follow. I am for marriage. Marriage is about two people who love each other. Let's not make it political, let's make it equal. *Whoever loves is a child of God. I John 4:7.*

To Volunteer:

www.hrcactioncenter.org

<http://equalitync.org/news/volunteer>

To contact your legislator:

http://hq-equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35020/p/dia/action/public/index.sjs?action_KEY=567

The Human Rights Campaign, Equality North Carolina and a coalition of pro-equality organizations will be convening at the state legislature on the day of the vote, Tuesday, September 13, 2011.

Tomato Soup and Canned Tomatoes Needed by CCM in September

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

Our food pantry special needs for September are:
Pork and Beans
Pasta Items
Canned Tomatoes & Soup
Chicken Noodle & Vegetable Soup
Canned Meat including Vienna sausage
Peanut Butter (16.3 to 18 oz. sizes)
Plastic Grocery Bags



At Trinity, bring your donations to the basket on the left side of the altar down front.

"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.

Hospice & Palliative Care Needs

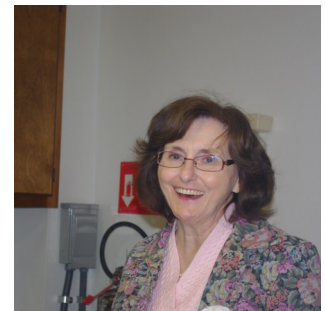
From the Cabarrus County Wish List:

- ◆ Art Supplies such as glitter pens, Sharpie markers
- ◆ New white washcloths
- ◆ Classical, Jazz, Bluegrass, Show Tunes or Religious Music CD's

Get Your Blood Pressure Checked

By JoAnna Cupp

This month we are focusing on your Blood Pressure. Do you know what your BP is? Is it too high or just right? Are you taking blood pressure medicine? Is it keeping your blood pressure regulated right, or are you taking more than one medication for your BP? Check with your doctor at the next visit and make sure your BP is in a normal range. This is so important. Elevated BP can lead to strokes, heart attacks and severe headaches. Also a reminder that in this heat, we need to stay in and stay cool, and remember to drink plenty of water.



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 or candidates, see Carol Williams Swoope.

Trinity has a tenant for the Annex: Sic Customs, Inc. also located in Harrisburg. Sic is a custom motorcycle designer. The first three months rent will be \$900, then \$1,200. A double door was added in the basement as well as a ceiling.

The Consistory unanimously voted to put 50% of the rent money aside for property taxes and possible future maintenance. The substantial costs for labor and materials to upgrade the annex to code came from the Memorial and Improvement Fund.

Members whose diligent work for the past two years produced a rentable space and tenant are Brian Hovey, Matt Devaux, David Ratchford and Steve Murdock.

Our weekly giving has gone from “treading water” to “cautious optimism.”

Average attendance for June was 64.25

Average Attendance for July was 62

Average attendance for August was 72.75

The free Pancake Breakfast served 155 in August. Trinity is housing 12 homeless individuals from September 4th to the 11th as part of the My Father’s House program. **Extra help will be needed at 7 a.m. on Sunday, September 11 to fold up the beds and re-set up the Sunday School Rooms.**

New Member’s Sundays will be October 9. Cole Lindberg is planning to officially unite with our church family and six others are considering joining.

Bradley Hope Fite received a job offer she couldn’t pass up, so **Trinity needs a new Office Assistant for 15 hours a week at \$150 a week.** The candidate needs to be knowledgeable of Microsoft Word and Excel and be able to multi-task. Contact Pastor Nathan if you are interested and/or submit a resume to the office. Hours are flexible between day and evening.

The Western Annual Association Meeting will be October 1, 2011 at Abernathy Laurels, Newton, NC WNCA Office: 704-633-3191.

Trinity Church Directory

Pastor Nathan King

Office Hours: Sunday—Thursday. 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:

Mjrhyme@vnet.net 704-721-4017

Bradley Hope Fite: Administrative Assistant

Trinityuccoffice@gmail.com Office hours are 5-9 pm. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5-7 pm on Fridays. The office will be closed on Tuesdays. 704-782-1024

Organist: Michael Leggett

Phone: 704-640-1334

The Trinity Portal Editor: Bonnie Schell,

704-786-8101, Bonniebelle@mindspring.com

Photographer: Carol and Tyler Williams

Custodian: John Maze 704-782-0082

Website: need volunteer to take this over.

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

The basic business of the meeting will be to consider the recommendation from the Southern Conference to restructure that conference. Two lay persons may attend as well as the pastors.

September

2	Matthew Cummings
5	George Smith, Sr.
8	Theresa Woody
11	Eli Miller
22	Jim & Anna Cress
23	Jerry Furr
28	Scott Eury
29	David Morris

KING MEMORIAL DEMONSTRATION

“The irony of doing a two week long civil disobedience action at the same time the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial is being dedicated—and the desire of this nation to domesticate Dr. King, pretend that he wasn’t in jail 23 times—that irony is so massive,” said Rev. Jim Antal, UCC Massachusetts Conference Minister.

Antal and 64 others spent three days and two nights in a Washington, D.C. jail after being arrested Aug. 20 during a Capitol sit-in.

The purpose of the protest was to pressure President Obama to deny the permit for an oil pipeline that would transport Canadian tar sands through the heartland of America to Texas, where it would be processed into oil. According to NASA climatologist James Hansen, the tar sands would become the second-largest “carbon bomb” to be released into the atmosphere, behind the oil fields of Saudi Arabia.

“The police were so shaken by the prospects of having maybe 100,000 people for the dedication of the King Memorial, they made an example out of us,” said Antal. The groups belongings were in the custody of the Park. “Even then, we were given the wrong address to retrieve our items.”

WIDENING THE WELCOME

“Widening the Welcome” to people with mental illnesses and other disabilities will be the focus of UCC workshops in Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 29 to Oct. 1.

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

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:17-18 NIV



Sunday School Year begins September Eleventh

Change of Classes For Some New Youth Worship for Grades One and Two

September 11 will begin the new Sunday School year. Those students who are moving to a new class on the 11th know who they are and are already anticipating that move.

Because of the large age span of those who attend youth worship, those students in grades 1 and 2 will have their own worship in room 102 with **Danielle Stengel** as outlined in last month's Trinity Portal.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED

With Danielle Stengel working with Grades 1 and 2 youth worship, **we are in need of a teacher for the Preschool/Kindergarten Class.** Would you consider this ministry?

There will be a special treat for those in the nursery during the regular worship hour. **Charlene Baker** will provide special activities 3 weeks of the month. Painting, clay/play dough, or construction activities are planned. Charlene worked with the nursery class in VBS. We observed how the young ones loved painting and the other activities of VBS so that it was decided to offer these activities to our nursery group during the worship hour. She will begin on September 11th.

All the teachers of children and youth need substitutes in case of vacations or illness. Substitutes fill in as needed. A curriculum and lesson plan is supplied. If you want to be on a substitute teacher list, see Pastor Marion. mjrhyne@vnet.net

The Trinity Youth Group had a great turn out and time skating on August 27.

UCC Regional Women's Meeting

Would you like to spend a week-end in beautiful Blowing Rock in the fall? Would you enjoy inspiration, Bible study, meditation, fun, and new information on health issues? If so, plan NOW to attend the UCC Women's Regional Meeting.

WHEN: October 7-9, 2011

WHERE: Blowing Rock Conference Center

Theme: A Faith Inspired Look Toward Wholeness!

Theme Scripture: Proverbs 3:7-8

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Barbara Baylor, Minister for Health Care Justice, UCC Office in Ohio.

Bible Study Leader: Rev. Dian Jackson

Entertainment: Glen Bolick, Mountain Story Teller and Singer

You get to choose two workshops from some of the following:

- "You are what you eat."
- "Health Care You Can Live With." written by Dr. Scott Morris, reviewed by Ms. Maureen Coe
- "Relationships: Compassion and Mindfulness in Relationships" presented by Rev. Dorothy Gager, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Vanderbilt
- "Self-care Strategies"
- "Care-giving during the Last Days" book discussion
- "How to support LGBT youth and young adults with Self Acceptance, Honesty, Assertiveness, Respect, & Expression: SHARE"
- "Mental Health & Mental Illness: A Challenge in the ongoing journey for Spiritual wholeness" with Rev. Jo Morris Sherer of AL
- "Five Wishes"

Cost Range is according to accommodations:

Friday Evening to Sunday Noon

\$134.00 to \$168 including meals and lodging.

What a Deal!!

See Eugenia Holste for registration blanks or call her: 704-454-5172 or cell 704-773-0446. So far Eugenia and Alane Holste, Bonnie Schell and JoAnna Cupp have signed up.



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.*

September 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.”



The Women's Rowan District Workshop met at Trinity at 3 p.m. on August 28th. Four women spoke about the issues, the work and the ministries of the WNCA United Church Women. Trinity was well represented.