

August

PeacePress

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST www.peaceucc.com

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A Global Mission Church

August, 2017

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The mission of Peace United Church of Christ is to reach our community for Christ, develop disciples, and empower all people for ministry.

Saturday, August 5th



Our Peace Church picnic and barbeque will be on **SATURDAY, August 5th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** There will be activities for adults and children outdoors as well as indoors for those who might not want to be outside if it is hot. Lunch will start at 12:00 to 12:30 and the menu will consist of hamburgers and hot dogs from the grill, baked beans, macaroni salad, and chips. We will have iced tea, lemonade, and water available to drink, and for dessert, watermelon and cup cakes. Everyone is welcome!

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Ms. Elisabeth Penry

Minister of Music
and Organist

Mrs. Sherri Vestal

Secretary

Ms. Rhiannon Kelly

Youth Director

Mr. Russ Haver

Consistory President

Rally Day is September 10th!!

2017 RALLY DAY

See Pastor Tom's column on page 2 for a brief outlook to Rally Day 2017.

Pastor's Perspective

August is in many ways a month of transitions. Summer vacation is wrapping up and many of us are trying to get in one last vacation. The school year in Guilford County begins on August 28th so parents and children are beginning the transition to a new academic season. While the “dog days” of summer are *definitely* upon us, every now and then there is a quiet hint of the autumn season which lies just around the corner.

Transitions are happening in the life of our church too! The news that our Youth Director, Rhiannon Kelly, is moving on is sad for us although we are happy for her new ministry. Who and what comes after Rhiannon’s departure presents itself as a new opportunity for Peace Church and our youth ministry program. Stay tuned...

Our upcoming **Rally Day** (September 10th) promises to be a day of celebration, reflection, and recommitment to our gospel mandate of praise, service, fellowship, and reaching out with the message of God’s love for all people. Rally Day will focus on the new initiative of our United Church of Christ — announced and celebrated at our General Synod meeting in June — focusing on the purpose, mission, and vision of the church. This includes:

Purpose Statement (from the Gospel of Matthew):

To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.

Vision Statement:

United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission Statement:

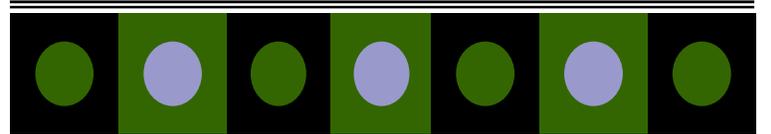
United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.

Finally, we continue to rejoice that God is fostering great transitions in the life of our congregation. New people and lots of babies are in our midst! We continue to receive wonderful publicity through our relationship with the New Arrivals Institute (see the August edition of the *1808 Magazine* featuring our Community Garden), and our tried and true elder members continue to be faithful and committed to the church they have loved and served for many, many years.

Amidst the reality of many transitions, I hope the summer won’t get away from us too soon. May we all find time to rest, reflect upon the place we find ourselves on the journey, and renew our souls for the opportunities and challenges which await us.

Summer blessings to you all!!

Pastor Tom



UCC CUBA 2018 STUDY SEMINAR

I am excited to announce that at this point we have 20 participants signed up for the January 2018 UCC Cuba Study Seminar. Included among these participants are **Harold and Yvonne Poffenbough!** The trip is scheduled for January 19th through February 3rd and is a cultural immersion program which introduces participants to all aspects of Cuban life. There are still some openings on the trip, so anyone who is interested is encouraged to call me at (336)-553-9730 or email me at

Staff Summer Travel Schedule

Sherri Vestal will be on vacation Wednesday, August 9 through Monday, August 14th.

Pastor Tom will be on vacation from Thursday, August 31st through Monday, September 4th. On Sunday, September 3rd, the **Reverend Dr. John Syster** will be our guest preacher. Also, while Pastor Tom is on vacation Reverend Syster will be on call for pastoral care duties; he can be reached at 336-905-7475 or on his cell phone at 941-374-4417.

PASTOR TOM TO TEACH AT GTCC

Beginning on August 15th, Pastor Tom will be teaching two classes of *Introduction to Sociology* at the Guilford Technical Community College (Greensboro campus). His classes meet on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:30-4:10 p.m. and run through December.



As I write this, it is still around the middle of July, but if all goes according to plan, July 30th is an exciting day in our church music. The details were finalized after the July *Peace Press* article was submitted, but the events are ongoing. Hymns are so special to many people. The morning of July 30th we will have favorite hymns as the anthem. We are tentatively thinking of making this a fifth Sunday event. You have the opportunity to suggest a hymn, and then we all sing selected verses before moving to someone else's favorite. Please go through your heart, your memory, and the hymnal and see what speaks to you and then know the page number. If yours was not sung in July, the next fifth Sunday is in October. Also on the 30th, we have planned another of our hymning events where the choir, and anyone who would like to join us, go and sing for our homebound members. Quite often, the homebound member will sing with us which is always a joy. We usually finish with *Jesus Loves Me* which is meaningful and easy to sing for so many. Hymns help bind us together as expressions of our faith and love in Jesus.

You have the opportunity to suggest a hymn, and then we all sing selected verses before moving to someone else's favorite. Please go through your heart, your memory, and the hymnal and see what speaks to you, then get your request in for the next Hymn Sing on October 29th.

It seems as if summer just started, and now it's coming to a close. August brings the start of school again, and for our choir it brings Christmas music even when temperatures are usually still soaring. We begin our preparations now, so we have time to really work on parts and truly know the words and music before we reach the Advent/Christmas season. As always, please remember YOU are welcome to come and join us in the choir.

One last update:

For those of you who remember Bobby and Susan Smith (Bobby was my predecessor in the music ministry leadership), I recently enjoyed lunch with them in High Point. Since Susan retired, they have been spending time together and traveling to such places as Paris and now planning to go on an Alaskan cruise. Some of you still ask about them, and they seem relaxed and happy!

You are cordially invited to our
Hands-On "Homespun"
 10th Anniversary Celebration
 Sunday, August 27th
 (following worship)
 Come and see *Hands-On*
 at work AND
 Enjoy delicious homemade refreshments!



Keep your mind open — maybe something will drop in.



We had a great turnout for the "hymning" outing on July 30th. We went to visit and sing with **Lucille Hege** and **Lib Patterson**, who both enjoyed our visits. If you missed out this time, be watching for the announcement next time and come go with us!





As you may know, I have just returned from leading our team of 11 teenagers on a mission trip to Santiago de Cuba. God certainly had His watch over us as we partnered with the Lavastida Center to assist in a construction project, learned about the culture and history of Cuba, and made so many new friends. One afternoon we visited with a children's ministry at a church in the rural area outside of the city. We took balloons, balls and bracelets to the kids and had a great time playing with them. As we were leaving the pastor thanked us and told us that we were the first group (not from Cuba) to ever come visit them. My arms were covered in chill bumps and my eyes filled with tears.

Here is a recap of the trip from Abigail Miller-Warren:

"This youth mission trip has to be one of the best experiences of my life. I started out apprehensive about leaving the country with a group of people I didn't know, but came back with memories to last a lifetime and unbreakable bonds.

We started out every day with working at the Lavastida Center, about 4 hours every day. The work was hard and tedious — we moved bricks, dug 15 ft. holes, and mixed cement by hand. Though we were tired, we'd get the job done and had a great time doing it, especially with the workers there. They welcomed us so graciously and, despite the language barrier, talked and bonded with us as well. No matter what kind of work we did there, all of us made friends.

For me personally, the trip wasn't so much about the work, but the friendships and bonds created along the way. That's the thing I was most worried about, but ended up being the easiest thing I did, with the hardest thing being leaving.



I think the whole group came out of this experience with a different mindset and perspective about other cultures and how privileged we are to be living the way we do. Cuba is full of so many wonderful and genuine people, so free of uniformity and media that seems to shape so many of our beliefs and preconceptions of life, in the U.S. and otherwise. Visiting Cuba was so humbling and I truly cannot wait to go back next year."

Rhiannon Kelly
Director of Youth and Children



Peace United Church of Christ

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Mobile Meals Celebration & Offering

**Celebrate Mobile Meals Volunteers
with us on Sunday, August 13,
special offering for Mobile Meals will be
received on Sunday, August 20th**

We at Peace Church have a long standing tradition of serving as Mobile Meals volunteers and supporting the program with monetary gifts. Please join us for worship services Sunday, August 13 as we honor our volunteers and Sunday, August 20 for the in gathering of our special offering.

The Mobile Meals Program delivers a nutritious noontime meal to home bound adults five days a week. On the second Thursday of every month, Peace UCC volunteers, working in pairs, deliver a hot meal to Mobile Meals recipients. Volunteers are always needed. For more information, please call Senior Resources of Guilford at 336-333-6981 or contact Cindy Spillers at 336-852-0478.



**Hands-On will meet for an
extended session on
August 9th. Please plan
from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. so
that we can finalize plans
for our anniversary event.**



PEACE



ARE

Connecting...

Communicating...

Caring...

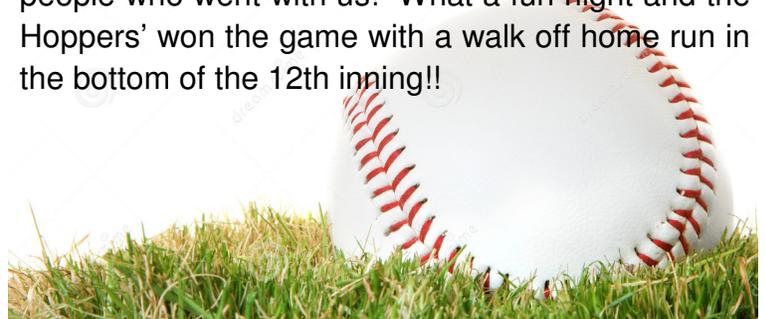
For a very long time (formerly through Stephen Ministry) we have sent cards on a monthly basis to our shut-ins. Also, cards are sent as the need arises for other care concerns of church members. We accomplish this by trying to network information about these needs. Many of these concerns are announced during our Congregational Prayer Time and are for people who do not belong to our church. We want to send cards, whenever practical, to these people as well..

To facilitate our process, we ask that you provide the names and addresses to the person who is sending the cards. For August and September, that person will be **Becky Taylor**. If you forget who it is, just give me the information.

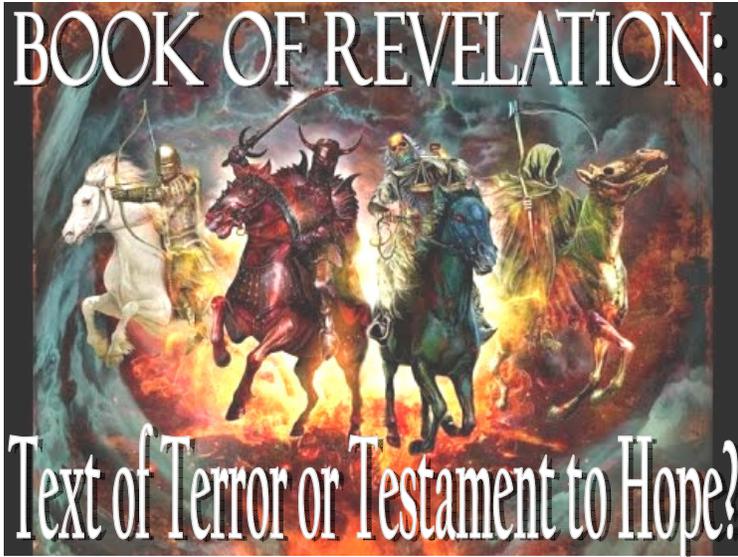
Please help us out as we try to demonstrate compassion and represent ourselves as "*the church that cares.*"

Theo Scott
PeaceCare Chair

The Men's Fellowship hosted a church-wide outing to the Greensboro Grasshoppers' baseball game on July 24. We had a good group of about 28 people who went with us! What a fun night and the Hoppers' won the game with a walk off home run in the bottom of the 12th inning!!



NEWS & Notes



For many people, the Book of Revelation is a confusing, disturbing, and sometimes frightening book. Others are drawn to Revelation by its surreal imagery and assumed promise of the "end of days."

The Book of Revelation has been used and abused over the years, often times leaving people of faith deeply misinformed as to the powerful, *this-worldly* message of hope that Revelation is, in the end, all about.

Beginning on Sunday, September 10th at 9:30 a.m., Pastor Tom will be leading a 12 week study of the Book of Revelation. This study will take a close look at the historical context of Revelation, striving to make connections with our world today and what Revelation has to teach us as people of faith.

All Peace Church members and friends are invited to this study and are asked to bring a New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible for the discussion. We hope to see you all there on Sunday, September 10th at 9:30 a.m.!!



Back to School

**Guilford County
students return to
school on Monday,
August 28th.**



Peace Church Recipe Corner

BAKED CHICKEN PARMESAN

An Italian classic, lightened up! Baking the cutlet as opposed to frying really lightens this dish up while remaining moist and full of flavor. Serve this over pasta or with a large salad to keep it on the lighter side.



4 (about 8 oz each) chicken breast, fat trimmed, sliced in half to make 8
 3/4 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
 2 Tbsp. butter, melted (or olive oil)
 3/4 cup reduced fat mozzarella cheese
 Marinara sauce
 Cooking Spray

Preheat oven to 375°. Spray a large baking sheet lightly with spray. Combine breadcrumbs and parmesan cheese in a bowl. Melt the butter in another bowl. Lightly brush the butter onto the chicken, then dip into breadcrumb mixture. Place on baking sheet and repeat with the remaining chicken. Lightly spray a little more oil on top and bake in the oven for 30-35 minutes until chicken is done. Remove from oven, spoon sauce over each piece of chicken and top each with shredded mozzarella cheese. Bake 5 more minutes or until cheese is melted.

Thank you from Rosina Whitfield...

Thank you so much for your prayers, thoughts and cards on the death of my mother-in-law, Ilene Whitfield. It meant a lot to hear from so many of you. She was the sweetest lady in the world and she raised a terrific son who I've been married to for over 25 years. Her only downfall, which she admitted, was that she did not teach him the fine art of housekeeping, but I rectified that situation over the years!



Rosina Whitfield

From the Finance Committee

We have just passed the half way point of the 2017 year and wanted to give everyone an update on our budget.

As you know we approved a tight budget that showed us that if we stuck to the budget we would be near even at the end of the year. There were a few line items that we budgeted by estimating the amount given to those line items in hopes that we would not go over. Two of these line items were Benevolence gifts and Building/Equipment

Maintenance. These two areas have impacted our budget so far this year that we are showing a small negative balance through the month of June. The big item is the maintenance of the building which has cost us more then we planned. Benevolence giving is down and if anyone would like to make a special donation, it would be much appreciated.

Overall, we are in good shape going into the second half of the year and would like to thank everyone for your hard work to keep us close to our goal for 2017. By keeping everyone up to date on our financial status, we can shoot to end the year in the black (positive numbers) which will help us as we begin to put a budget together for 2018.

God Bless,

Karen and Russ Haver, Co-Chairs



A LOOK at the BUDGET

FATHER'S DAY BULLETIN REPORT

Thanks to all who contributed to the Father's Day bulletin this year. The Father's Day bulletin was sponsored this year by the Women's Fellowship and the proceeds benefited the **Out of the Garden Project**, an agency that provides more than 1250 bags of food each weekend to students and families at nearly 60 elementary, middle and high schools here in the Piedmont Triad. \$295.00 was received for this worthy project. Thank you again for your generosity.



The Women's Fellowship new year begins in September. Please plan to join the women for prayer, Bible study and fellowship. All women of the church are invited to participate. We meet in the Parlor at 10:00 a.m. on the first Tuesday after the first Sunday of each month. We would love to have you. Contact **Yvonne Smothers at 336 339-9867** if you would like information.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN CENTER LAVASTIDA IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA

To the Youth Group of Peace UCC 2017

Dear Friends,

Today, in our last weekly devotional before the vacation month, we read and looked at the beautiful cards that you left for us. It was a bit like having you again with us here in Santiago.

We greatly appreciate the expression of solidarity that embodied your visit among us, and we are very grateful for the hard work that you developed. We are impressed by the interest and the strength with which you tackled that difficult labor of construction, and also the marvelous attitude that the whole group had in front of difficulties and especially the harsh climate of those days.



We are glad to know through some of the messages in the cards of your interest and disposition to repeat the experience and that keeps alive the hope of continuing to "build bridges" and cultivating such beautiful friendships that were initiated during that week.

The workers also remember you and wanted us to greet you. They are now taking several days of vacation and will renew their work in August to see how much they can accomplish during that month while we are away on our vacation as a Center.

We are sending you our special greetings with much love from all the Center Staff.

Centro Cristiano de Servicio y Capacitación B.G. Lavastida.



Peace United Church of Christ
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Congratulations to these two handsome young men who graduated from high school this past June and are getting ready to head off for their freshman year at college. **Daniel Warren** (left) is headed to Western Carolina University, and **Kenny Savage** (right) is headed to North Carolina A&T. We pray God's very best blessings for them as they start this new chapter in their lives.

BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

- A word for happy (rhymes with had)
- What you do when you're very happy
- A song written by David
- Full of joy

DOWN

- People who obey God
- Our Creator
- The month after April

“But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and 4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they be happy and 7. _____.” 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

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Answers: (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 6. joy, 7. joyful; (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. may and joyful.” Psalm 68:3, NIV

Please keep these members of our church family in your thoughts and prayers:

Lois Bell; Dale Benschhoff; Dot Benschhoff; Bertie Bowman; Nan Buchanan; Richard Graber; Ramona Griffin; Beverly Haithcock; Millie Harmon; Laura Langley; Jim Lillie; Buddy Lippard; Sally McGrogan; Dorothy Meeks; Sharon Mitchell; David Murray; Mary Ann Murray; Gertrude Radford; Pansy Slate; Sue Smith; Lucille Waynick; Betty Webster; Buddy Webster; Doris Whitley; Kelly Wyrick.

Remember these wider church family and friends:

Lyn Ann Bailey (niece of Harold Poffenbaugh); Chris Barnes (nephew of Harold Poffenbaugh); Katie Bowen (daughter-in-law of Cynthia Bowen); Eric Chapman (nephew of Jane Ford); Janet Faucette (sister-in-law of Yvonne Smothers); Theresa Grill (neighbor of Sue Smith); Butch Holt (brother-in-law of B.J. Blocker); Betty Larimer (aunt of Trish Larimer); Ann Moran (friend of Susie Cressman); Beatrice Rosenthal (mother of David Dole); Annette Sarty (sister of Yvonne Poffenbaugh); Michael Shoffner (grandson of Edith Sink); Ralph Stevenson (brother-in-law of Linda Fesperman); Tom & Rhoda Taylor (niece & her husband of Harold Poffenbaugh); Lindsay White (great-granddaughter of David & Nancy Peeler).

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING FOR JULY

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP	REGULAR OFFERING	OTHER OFFERING
July 2	13	64	\$3,312	\$185
July 9	16	62	\$3,986	\$415
July 16	N/R	64	\$1,145	\$170
July 23	11	69	\$2,046	\$4,940
July 30	N/R	61	\$2,625	\$300

PEACE CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

(Through June 30, 2017)

	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Amount Over (Under) Budget
Contributions from Members & Friends, Plus Other Receipts	13,678	91,996	91,498	498
Disbursed in Support of Ministries, Programs & Facilities	19,093	106,008	110,512	(4,504)
Strengthen the Church	349			



August Birthdays



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 John Dieterly	4 Jennifer Killingsworth	5 Pansy Slate
6 Michael Clapp	7 Buddy Lippard Jack Sherman	8	9	10 Jocelyn Bowen Glen Hutchinson	11	12
13 Mary Kaye Bennett	14	15	16	17 Stan Dodd Joanne Gilbert	18	19 Daniel Whitfield
20	21 Louise Hearn Laura Langley	22	23 Heather Owen Izzie Smith	24	25	26 Jamie Henegar
27	28	29 Joan Dilworth Heidi Hochwarth Eric Wasihington	30	31 Brooklyn Hittepole		