



PeacePress

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST www.peaceucc.com

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A Global Mission Church

June, 2019

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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.



We honor all the graduates associated with Peace Church this year! See the full list on page 3.

The Father's Day bulletin insert is sponsored this year by the Women's Fellowship and the proceeds will benefit 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. Their statistics say that 2 out of every 3 children depend on subsidies to eat meals at school!



Sign up to honor or remember a special father in your life. Please give generously to help this worthy organization. **Sign up in the Narthex or call the church office by June 11th.**

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Ms. Elisabeth Penry
Minister of Music
and Organist

Mrs. Sherri Vestal
Office Manager

Mr. Ted Wilkinson
Youth Director

Ms. Abigail Miller Warren
Nursery Attendant

Congratulations Hands-On!



12 years and going strong! Happy Birthday Hands-On!

They will celebrate with a summer luncheon followed by their usual work session on Monday, June 10th at 12:00 p.m. See page 5 for details.

Take a trip to the mountains, the beach, somewhere tropical or historical, but otherwise, make sure **YOUR** face isn't missing at church this summer!

Pastor's Perspective

On Monday, July 1st, it will be the 6th anniversary of my ministry as pastor of Peace United Church of Christ. The beginning of year seven. It has been a busy time, with much change in our membership, many improvements to our building and grounds, new ministries begun and long-established ministries flourishing. I could use this entire column to talk about the past six years, but let's not. Let's, instead, look ahead. What now?

Some suggestions...

Denominational Clarity: What does it mean to be a United Church of Christ congregation? How does our history inform our present? Is being part of a denomination important anymore? What does being UCC mean for our understanding of ministry? Biblical interpretation? Social witness? Evangelism?

Cultural Clarity: Mainline Protestant churches such as ours have historically been shaped by the classic book "Christ and Culture" by H. Richard Niebuhr. His argument was that the church's role in America is to be an agent of transformation; to make America just a bit better. This argument, made in 1951 at the beginning of mainline Protestant cultural ascendancy, has rendered the church an institution of the culture, doing good deeds in the hopes of a more perfect union. Sixty years later the social landscape of America has radically changed, but the foundational orientation of the church has not, leaving us in the midst of devastating decline and void of any real moral authority. In 2019, what do we have to say in regard to the culture in which we live?

Congregational Clarity: Over and above the usual comments of how friendly we are (and we are!), what would we say when describing ourselves? What are our beliefs as a congregation? How do we read and understand the Bible? How do we reconcile the biblical narrative and the insights of science? What do we think of, and how should we interact, with other faith traditions? What is our congregational mission?

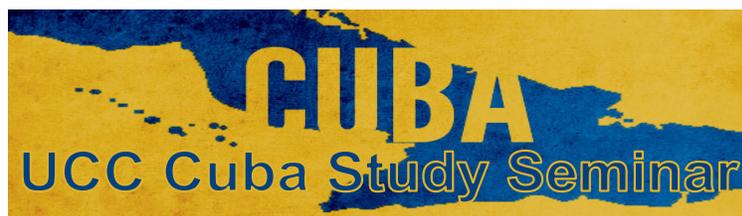
These are just a few of the issues we need to think about and struggle with as we move into the future together. Many of these issues, when talked about, may force us to move out of our comfort zones. When a community or faith tradition feels threatened, as many American Christians do in our day-and-time, holding tightly to

"what we know" can be a reactionary response. But "what we know" no longer works, and has not for a long time. It's time to rethink, re-vision, and re-imagine the church in the 21st century.

We are positioned, financially and membership wise, to move into a new day. Six years in, the work is just getting started. Let the games begin!

Thanks for the first half dozen....

Pastor Tom



UCC Cuba Study Seminar 2020

In January, 2020, the Cuba Study Seminar will return to Cuba and we are pleased to announce that the Rev. Dr. Clint McCann will be leading us in Bible study and reflection throughout the trip. Dr. McCann is the Professor of Biblical Interpretation at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. He is an expert in the Psalms and the Biblical Prophets. The dates of this trip will be Thursday, January 20 through Sunday, February 9, 2020. Those who are interested are asked to email Pastor Tom at uccubastudy@gmail.com.

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING, JUNE 13-15, 2019



The *Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ* will be having its 54th Annual Gathering Thursday, June 13th through Saturday, June 15th.

The theme, "Dreaming What's Possible, #NOLIMIT", will be the central expression of this gathering that will be held at Canterbury School in Greensboro. Pastor Tom will be attending along with our delegate, Jane Ford. Visit www.soc-ucc.org/annual-gathering for complete details.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!



We celebrate the 2019 graduates here at Peace Church and in our extended church family. We are proud of each of them!

-  **Jaden Busch** graduated from Lincoln-Sudbury High School in Sudbury, MA. He will be studying Computer Science in college next year. Jaden is the grandson of Mary Lillie.
-  **Marion Ellen Cox** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with her degree in Exercise and Sports Science. Marion is the granddaughter of Ellen Mason.
-  **Brady Dole** is graduating from Kernodle Middle School and will be a rising 9th grader at Northwest Guilford High School this fall. Brady is the son of Dave and Alexa Dole, and the grandson of Mick and Sally McGrogan.
-  **Dominic Hittepole** is graduating from Trindale Elementary School and progressing to Braxton Craven Middle School this fall. Dominic is the son of Dustin and Elizabeth Hittepole.
-  **Sophia Lewis** is graduating from Guilford Elementary School, and will be a rising 6th grader at Western Guilford Middle School. Sophia is the granddaughter of Harold and Yvonne Poffenbaugh.

 **Abigail Miller-Warren** is graduating from Weaver Academy, and will be attending East Carolina University this fall. Abigail is the daughter of Pastor Tom Warren and Kim Miller.

 **Dylan Myers** is graduating from Kiser Middle School, and will be a rising 9th grader at Grimsley High School this fall. Dylan is the son of Eddie and Stephanie Myers, the brother of Ian Myers, grandson of Una Lee Myers, and nephew of Jean Scott.

 **Ian Myers** is graduating from Grimsley High School, and will be attending Guilford Technical Community College this fall. Ian is the son of Eddie and Stephanie Myers, the brother of Dylan Myers, grandson of Una Lee Myers, and nephew of Jean Scott.

 **Meghan Nelson** is graduating from Western Guilford High School and will be attending Salem College this fall. Meghan is the granddaughter of David and Mary Ann Murray.

 **Caroline Scott** is graduating from Southwood Middle School in Anderson, SC, and will be going to L. T. Hanna High School in Anderson this fall. Caroline is the daughter of David and Michelle Scott and the granddaughter of Jean Scott.



Greetings Peace Church from Frances Johnson & Ginger Johnson Boswell:

*It's been a little over 6 months since we moved my mom to live in California with us, and we'd like to say hello to the congregation. Frances misses each of you so much, as you've been such an important part of her life in NC! She has enjoyed the CA winter compared to NC, even with the most rain in memory. We live a few miles from the beach, so this spring, Frances sees overcast skies and takes her umbrella when she goes out, even though we've explained that it looks like rain, but we call 2 months — "May Gray" & "June Gloom"! Frances had 7 great-grands when she moved, but a girl arrived in February in Kansas City, and a boy in May in CA, so her total is 9 great-grands! She flew nonstop to KC the end of April to visit family and hold that baby, then flew back to find her 9th was born the morning she arrived! Five of her 9 live in a 20-30 minute drive and keep her busy! Thanks to those of you who have sent cards and called Frances! It's very much appreciated! Frances has her same phone number, but if you call and get no answer, please leave a message. She's been getting so many crank calls from NC, that I've told her not to answer and wait to see if there's a message. **Her phone is 336-294-3220.** She gets text messages also. Mailing address is 1431 Tzena Way Encinitas, CA 92024. She'll be 92 on July 17, and is enjoying life fully!*



Strengthen The Church Offering



The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Our church will receive the Strengthen the Church offering on Pentecost Sunday, June 9th, 2019.



A note from Elisabeth...

June is another of our five Sunday months, and that means the anthem on June 30th will be a hymn sing of congregational favorites. Please take time to really

think about a hymn that has particular significance to you. Before the service begins each Sunday in June, look through our hymnal and see what hymns “speak” to you, and then be ready to call out a number and share it with us on the fifth Sunday.

One recent Wednesday evening I asked the choir how many times we need to use a hymn before we “know” it – something that you can hum or sing without the book because it is just a part of you. The answers varied, but it is a question you may also want to consider. When we have a new (or very infrequently used hymn during a worship service) our congregation really makes an effort to sing. Sometimes we also use a hymn as our choir anthem on Sundays, so we are all hearing less-used, but meaningful and beautiful hymns. But – how many times would we need to use a song before it becomes as easy as singing, for instance, *Amazing Grace*? Think about it, and let me know. In mentioning songs we know, we will be sharing our traditional, Pentecost anthem, *Come, Holy*

Spirit by John W. Peterson again. Pentecost is June 9th, so be ready to sing!

I do want to be sure to thank the Women’s Fellowship for all the planning and hard work that went into the Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet in May. It was so nice to be included in such an enjoyable (and delicious!) as well as informative evening.

And my final June note – although I am no longer in the school system, I do want to remind us all to pray for our students as they get out for summer break. Please pray for their needs to be met and for constructive activities to keep them occupied!

~ Elisabeth Penry



UCC Southern Conference Women Summer Conference Meeting to be held at Peace Church



Peace Church Recipe Corner

Peace Church is proud to welcome the UCC Church Women of the Southern Conference on **Wednesday, June 12 and Thursday, June 13, 2019** for their Annual Summer Conference.

The theme for the Conference is **“We Shall Not Lose the Power of Praise”**. This year’s conference is being hosted by the Eastern NC Association Church Women who have planned for some exciting speakers and activities on the agenda.

On Thursday evening, their closing worship service will be held at the Canterbury School in Greensboro which will be a joint service with the Southern Conference Annual Meeting being held **Thursday, June 13 through Saturday June 15, 2019**. Visit www.soc-ucc.org for complete information and registration,

Pastor Tom’s Summer Vacation Schedule

Monday, June 17th – Friday, June 21st (Family/Friend Visit in New York)

Monday, July 1st & Tuesday, July 2nd (ECU Orientation with Abigail)

Friday, August 2nd through Saturday, August 10th (Family Vacation in Blowing Rock)

Friday, September 20th through Saturday, September 29th (Appalachian Trail)



Hands-On will have their summer luncheon on **Monday, June 10, 2019** at **12:00 noon** in the Fellowship Hall with a work session following. A box lunch from Maria's for \$9.00 each, including a drink and dessert, will be served. If paying by

check, please make it out to Yvonne Poffenbaugh. Please let **Yvonne Poffenbaugh** or **Theo Scott** know ASAP if you wish to attend.

Strawberry Pretzel Salad

2 cups finely crushed pretzels
 ½ cup sugar, divided
 2/3 cup butter, melted
 1½ pkg. (8 oz. each) cream cheese, softened
 2 Tbs. milk
 1 cup thawed COOL WHIP Whipped Topping
 2 cups boiling water
 1 pkg. (6 oz.) JELL-O Strawberry Flavored Gelatin
 1½ cups cold water
 4 cups fresh strawberries, sliced



Heat oven to 350°F. Mix pretzel crumbs, 1/4 cup sugar and butter; press onto bottom of 13x9-inch pan. Bake 10 minutes. Cool.

Beat cream cheese, remaining sugar and milk until blended. Stir in COOL WHIP; spread over crust. Refrigerate.

Add boiling water to gelatin mix in large bowl; stir 2 minutes until completely dissolved. Stir in cold water. Refrigerate 1-1/2 hours or until thickened. Stir berries into gelatin; spoon over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate 3 hours or until firm.

(Make it Easy: Substitute 1 pkg. (20 oz.) frozen whole strawberries, sliced, for the fresh strawberries. Stir into gelatin mix along with the cold water. Refrigerate 10 to 15 min. or until thickened; spoon over cream cheese layer. Continue as directed.)



Our Bricks & Mortar Ministry

Like many long-established churches, Peace Church has a very large physical plant. It takes upkeep and investment to keep it up to snuff. While our physical plant is significant, we have slowly, but surely begun to utilize it in ways that benefit both our church and our wider community. Consider the following:

New Arrivals Institute: Every day of the week, from 9:30am-12:30pm, the New Arrivals Institute offers classes for both immigrant and refugee adults and children. Between 80-120 "new arrivals" come to NAI at Peace Church each day to learn how to read and speak English, take citizenship classes, learn job skills, and receive social services which are badly needed when starting a new life in the United States. NAI pays a monthly rental fee of \$1,200.00.

Narcotics Anonymous: People struggling to overcome drug addiction come to Peace Church five days a week for NA support groups meetings. Morning meetings are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and evening meetings are on Tuesday and Thursday. NA gives a monthly donation of \$150.00 to the church.

Montagnard Bunong Alliance Church: This small congregation of 20 members worships in our chapel on Sunday afternoons from 2:00-5:00pm. They make a donation each month in the amount of \$200.00

Elena Deangeles Vocal Recitals: Elena is a professional vocal instructor who has over 30 students from around the Greensboro area. She loves having her recitals in our Sanctuary due to our wonderful acoustics, beautiful surroundings, and central location. She and her husband Jeff, also a professional vocal instructor, hope to put on concerts in the future and hold them at Peace Church for the wider community. She makes a donation to our church after every recital (about 4 a year), and sings during our worship from time to time.

Other Groups That Use Our Building: Church Women United (bi-monthly), Guilford UCC Clergy Group (quarterly), occasional gospel concerts organized by Sherri Vestal, Women of the Southern Conference Annual Meeting (6/12-13), North Carolina Council of Churches Board Meeting (6/4), Worlds Apart/One Heart Medical Mission Group (7/13), occasional weddings; polling place each election cycle; Rosina Whitfield's children's theatre rehearsals on occasion.

All of these groups are examples of the ways in which we connect to our wider community through our building. They are all very grateful that we share our space and we are blessed to be able to have such a wonderful space to worship and to serve. Thanks to all of our church members whose gifts and efforts are essential for keeping our building and grounds attractive and functioning. Truly, this is a part of our ministry... to make Peace Church the crossroads of the community. Alleluia!



Happy 103rd Birthday to Gertrude Radford on Monday, June 3rd!
We don't often recognize individual birthdays like this, but when a girl is turning 103 years old... we must celebrate BIG!! It's a pretty big deal to be 103, and she's sharp as a tack!

We love you Gertrude!

Dot Benschhoff would to thank you for all the cards, calls and acts of kindness extended to her over the past few months. Dot says, *"I'm just so blessed to be a member of this church family. These cards always seem to come at just the right time and say just what I need. I just can't thank you all enough."*



Visit our Website

www.peaceucc.com



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

Lois Bell; Dot Benschhoff; Bertie Bowman; Nan Buchanan; David Fesperman; Sherri Kluttz; Buddy Lippard; Carol MacDonald; Sally McGrogan; Abigail Miller-Warren; Sharon Mitchell; David & Mary Ann Murray; Jack & Marcy Neal; Nora Norred; Femi Quakenbush; Gertrude Radford; Roy & Sue Smith; Dale Starr; Lucille Waynick; Doris Yeattes.

Remember these wider church family and friends:

Lois Bell; Dot Benschhoff; Bertie Bowman; Nan Buchanan; David Fesperman; Sherri Kluttz; Buddy Lippard; Carol MacDonald; Sally McGrogan; Abigail Miller-Warren; Sharon Mitchell; David & Mary Ann Murray; Jack & Marcy Neal; Nora Norred; Femi Quakenbush; Gertrude Radford; Roy & Sue Smith; Dale Starr; Lucille Waynick; Doris Yeattes.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING FOR MAY

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP	REGULAR OFFERING	OTHER OFFERING
May 5		58	\$4,826	\$1,565
May 12		67	\$5,309	\$120
May 19		65	\$1,460	\$430
May 26		59	\$2,350	\$1,120

PEACE CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

(Through April 30, 2019)

	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Amount Over (Under) Budget
Contributions from Members & Friends, Plus Other Receipts	15,925	64,376	60,511	3,865
Disbursed in Support of Ministries, Programs & Facilities	17,725	73,049	66,745	6,304
OGHS, Youth Cuba Mission Trip	240			



June Birthdays

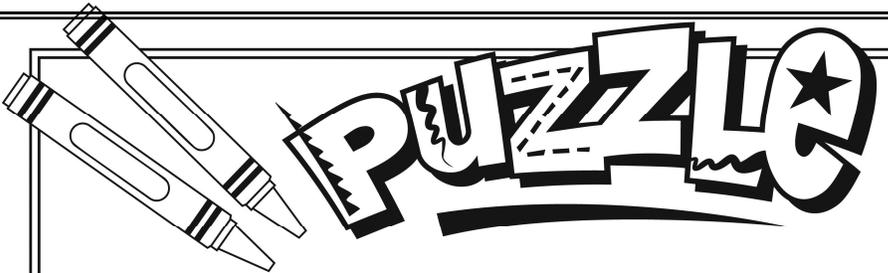


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Elaine Hayes
2 Roger True	3 Dustin Hittepole Gertrude Radford	4 Jeff Hindson Hannah Summers John Syster	5	6	7	8 Jean Morgan
9 Susie Cressman	10	11 Amanda Hindson	12	13	14 Gabrielle Baker Emily Blocker Roy	15
16	17	18 Cassidy True	19	20	21	22 Ted Wilkinson
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30					



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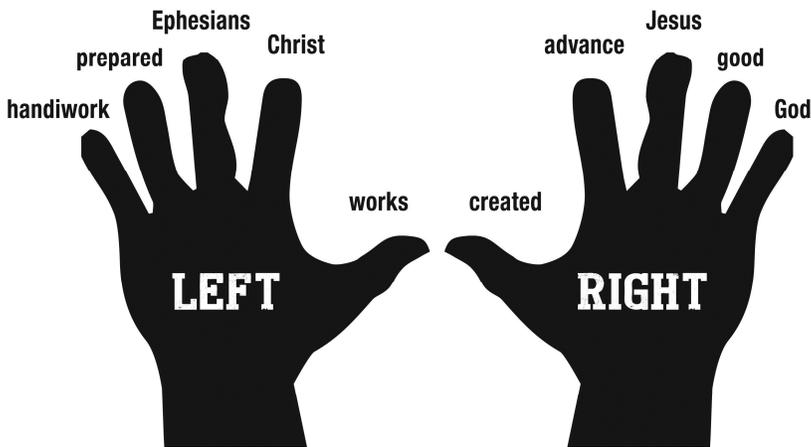
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Handiwork to do good works

God has a special plan and purpose for each of us.

Directions: Use the finger-position clues under the blanks below to complete Ephesians 2:10, NIV.



For we are God's _____, _____ in
L pinky R thumb

_____ to do _____,
L pointer R middle R ring L thumb

which _____ in _____
R pinky L ring R pointer

for us to do. _____ 2:10, NIV
L middle

Answer: handiwork, created, Christ, Jesus, good, works, God, prepared, advance, Ephesians

GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!