



Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Perspective	2
Music Director	3
Consistory Corner	3
April Mission of the Month	4
Jambalaya/Yard Sale Report	4
PeaceCare Anniversary Postponed	4
Peace Church Recipe Corner	5
Johns River Valley Camp	5
Online Giving Review	6
Message from Conference Minister	7
Save the Dates	7
Kids Activity Page	8
Prayer List, Financials, Birthdays (insert)	



Peace Press

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST www.peaceucc.com

Volume 33, Issue 4

A Global Mission Church

April, 2020

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



Christ the Lord is Risen!

Peace United Church of Christ
 2714 W. Market St.
 Greensboro, NC 27403
 Phone 336-299-8663
 Fax 336-299-9730
www.peaceucc.com

Church Email:
peaceucc2714@gmail.com

STAFF

Rev. Tom Warren

Pastor
 Direct Line 336-553-9730
 Email:
reverendtom65@gmail.com

Ms. Elisabeth Penry

Minister of Music
 and Organist

Mrs. Sherri Vestal

Office Manager

Mr. Ted Wilkinson

Youth Director

Ms. Rachel Johnson

Nursery Attendant

Ms. Ava Chambers

Consistory President

Pastor's Perspective



In November of 1987, the pop-rock band R.E.M. released a quick-paced, fun, somewhat stream-of-consciousness song called "It's the End of the World As We Know It (And I Feel Fine)." Back when it was first released it reached number 69 on the *Billboard Hot 100* list of pop songs, appreciated for its upbeat and catchy tempo along with its refrain which spoke to the world of 1989 as we watched the Soviet Union disintegrate and the Berlin Wall come crashing down. The world was changing and we were filled with optimism about the future.

Perhaps it will come as no surprise, but "It's the End of the World As We Know It (And I Feel Fine)" re-entered the *Billboard Hot 100* list this March in response to the coronavirus pandemic we now find ourselves in. Thirty-three years later the message of a pop song speaks to our predicament... again.

Well, the good news about this R.E.M. song is that it's simply a creative, musical offering, but one whose refrain perhaps holds some truth for us. While it is not literally "the end of the world" and most of us don't "feel fine," the world "as we know it" may indeed be different going forward.

While it is really too early to make predictions about our post-pandemic world, what has been made clear to me is that we are now truly a global family of nations. Our

economies are intertwined, our national boundaries are porous (at least to viruses), our health care systems require the sharing of knowledge, medicines, and basic materials, and our transportation systems now transport **everything** around the world in a matter of hours.

Our thinking and consciousness will have to change; exactly how remains to be seen. But the idea that any nation can somehow wall itself off from the world has been revealed a fallacy. New forms of communication and resource sharing will be a required part of our post-pandemic world. Indeed, it is thankfully, a part of our world right now, in the midst of this current pandemic-induced panic.

And where does faith fit in with all of this? The same as it ever was. The great religions of the world all have within them the central tenet to love your neighbor. Friends, family, community, and faith are what make life meaningful and it is these components of life that make life worth living.

Central to our Christian faith is what Jesus said best:

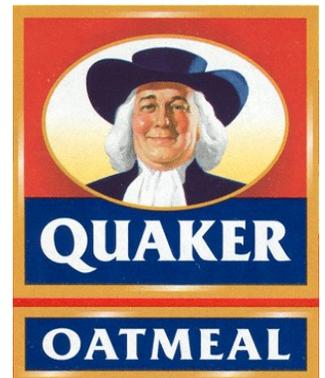
"...Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." (March 12: 29-31)

In faith, we will get through this, and perhaps even be a stronger world because of it. In the meantime, reach out to your neighbor, pray to God, and do not fear. Instead, sing a song...a song that will make you feel fine.

Blessings of peace,

Pastor Tom

Peace Church has an ongoing commitment to supply oatmeal to the Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Pantry on a monthly basis. The first Sunday of each month is designated Oatmeal Sunday when everyone is encouraged to bring a one pound box of oatmeal or to donate \$1.00 to purchase oatmeal. Donations are welcome at any time and can be placed in the basket under the bulletin board in the Narthex. There is an oatmeal box for monetary donations in the same location or your weekly offering envelopes can be used.



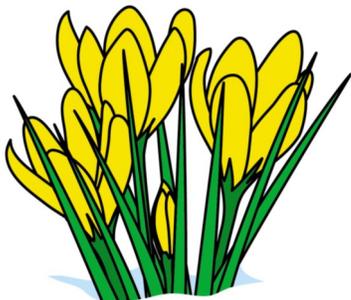
A
Note from
Elisabeth

We have made it to April - the month of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter! It has been such a time of uncertainty and question. Our remembrance and celebration may not happen the way we originally planned, but we can still worship and praise from our homes and express our gratitude to Jesus for what He did and is continuing to do in our lives! Hosanna and alleluia!

If you have a hymnal at home – any hymnal will do – look up the sections about Jesus Suffering, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Resurrection (depending on the hymnal they may have different titles), and read, pray, and sing those hymns. Add one or more of the hymns you find to your daily devotional time by meditating on the words and focusing on Jesus. You may also have time to write your own hymn. The words of our hymns are poems. Express your own feelings and praise of Jesus, and then if you like, share what you have written. Someone wrote our hymns – why not you?

And speaking of hymns, when you are washing your hands again and again for 20 seconds, try singing a verse of *Amazing Grace* or *Joy to the World*. Someone else told me that praying the Lord's Prayer also works. According to my phone stopwatch (and the speed I was singing/praying) these took about 20 – 25 seconds each. Let us know if you find another hymn or Scripture that takes the right amount of seconds, and we'll share it.

During this coronavirus time I have asked the choir to lift up a prayer at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays for people around the world. We would normally be meeting at 7:00, so it's a way to connect when we would usually be together. I suggested Psalm 91 and II Chronicles 7:14 as scripture references, but you may have additional scriptures that you are using to help you through this pandemic. Please remember all those suffering, the families who have lost loved ones, the medical and emergency personnel who are tirelessly serving, those making decisions, those making masks/equipment, those who have lost jobs, the cleaning crews... and the list goes on. We would love for others to join us in prayer at 7:00 on Wednesday evenings, and we look forward to the time we can once again be together.



~ Elisabeth Penry
Music Director

CONSISTORY CORNER

On Sunday, March 15, Rev. Cameron Barr, Pastor of United Church of Chapel Hill looked out into an empty sanctuary. He spoke with confidence a word that he knew would be delivered via digital media. "People of God, we are unable to worship in person with one another. We are a virtual community now. But let's be clear about one thing: **Church Is Not Canceled.**"

Peace Church is having church, we are reaching in and reaching out, thanks to Pastor Tom, Sherri, our Church Secretary, Elisabeth, our Music Director and Organist, Ted Wilkinson, our Youth Director, and to you, our members. We can all work together to stay connected in these days, by holding each other in prayer, calling each other, sending cards, and please do not forget to support our Peace UCC financially. Even though we are not able to meet, **we are having Church!**

Your Consistory appreciates the discussion and member's input during our Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 1st. It seems like it was a different time in our lives.

During our March meeting, we discussed our Endowment Fund and the limitations of its current by-laws. We are currently seeking legal advice about how to change the Endowment Fund, We want to be good stewards of the Fund, but we may need to have access to our money during difficult times as is our current situation.

We do plan to have more all-church meetings during the year to keep everyone informed. In the meantime, please feel to contact me or any member of the Consistory with concerns and ideas.

In the midst of this global health pandemic, we will show our love of God and each other... **Church Is Not Canceled!**

Blessings,
Ava Chambers, Consistory President



Peace United Church of Christ

MISSION OF THE MONTH

CREATION CARE TEAM (CCT)

Planet Earth!



THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
EARTH DAY
APRIL 22, 2020

Fifty years ago, 20 million people marched on the streets to demand that government protect the health of our people.

Earth Day 1970 remains the largest civic engagement event in human history... until now.

On Wednesday, April 22nd, join millions to stand up for the planet.

BE PART OF HISTORY: 50 YEARS OF EARTH DAY | APRIL 22, 2020

EARTHDAY.ORG/ACTION



Jambalaya Sale & Yard Sale

The final numbers are in from the Jambalaya Sale and Yard Sale and it was a very good event.

Jambalaya Sale: \$1,470.80

Yard Sale: \$ 562.85



PEACE



ARE

We are very sorry that our 5th Anniversary Celebration had to be postponed. The operative word is "postponed," because, unlike many events that have been cancelled, we do plan to hold this event.

It is imperative at this time to stay in touch with members of the congregation during our pandemic. This is particularly the case for those who live alone and must stay home or those who are in facilities with no visitors or outside contacts allowed. Please don't just "think" about these folk, or "wonder" how they are doing. Pick up the phone and call. Identify yourself as a Peace Church member if you do not yet know the person. Just say you wanted to know how they were getting along. You will feel good, and so will they.

Pastor Tom has been doing an awesome job of encouraging us and keeping us advised during this crisis.

I have asked the PeaceCare Leaders to check on their members. This is an unprecedented request, but necessary at this difficult time. We must look out for each other, now, more than ever.

So, do your part. Contact relatives, friends, neighbors, associates, and members of our church family. Remember, we are children of God who Connect, Communicate, and Care.

God be with you,

Theo Scott
PeaceCare Chair



Peace Church Recipe Corner

HUMMINGBIRD CAKE

When the Hummingbird Cake was first submitted to Southern Living in 1978 by Mrs. L.H. Wiggins of Greensboro, North Carolina, no one had an idea the cake would become the most popular and beloved Southern cake recipe ever. Without a doubt, the cake is a beauty with its three moist layers topped with cream cheese frosting and pecans; but it's the taste that really keeps us coming back. There are a few rules for success in this recipe that make it truly stand out. First, vegetable oil is used instead of butter to get the moist, quick-bread-like texture of the layers. Second, you need a can of crushed pineapple in its juice, which you will NOT drain. The juice adds so much flavor to the cake batter and keeps it incredibly moist. Lastly, always take the time to toast your pecans. It's a game-changer. Forty years may have passed since we discovered this Southern gem, but we keep making it year after year!



Cake Layers

3 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups granulated sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3 large eggs, beaten
1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 (8-oz.) can crushed pineapple in juice, undrained
2 cups chopped ripe bananas (about 3 bananas)
1 cup chopped pecans, toasted
Vegetable shortening

Cream Cheese Frosting

2 (8-oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
1 cup salted butter, softened
2 (16-oz.) pkg. powdered sugar
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
3/4 cup pecan halves, toasted

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Prepare the cake layers: Whisk together flour, sugar, salt, baking soda, and cinnamon in a large bowl; add



Since 1936, Johns River Valley Camp & Retreat Center (JRVC) offers year-round programs for children, youth, adults, families, groups, and church communities. JRVC is the outdoor ministry site of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ. The camp is located in western North Carolina about 18 miles northwest of Lenoir on Highway 90. A small village, Collettsville, is located on Hwy 90 about 7 miles before the camp. Located on the shores of the Johns River, the camp is 285 acres with access to waterfalls, hiking, a basketball court, an archery course, outdoor altars, and so much more.

In the summer months, both Classic and Mission Camps are held for children entering the 3rd grade through high school. Outside the summer months, JRVC is an ideal place for retreats and family gatherings. Lodging ranges from rustic cabins to modern and comfortable dorm style accommodations. The Retreat Center meeting spaces are equipped with air conditioning and wireless Internet.

2020 JOHNS RIVER VALLEY SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

Connect Camp — Grades 7-12 — May 15-17

Youth Mission Camp 1 — Grades 7-12 — June 14-20

Senior High Camp — Grades 7-12 — June 28 -July 4

Round Table Rendezvous — Jr. High — June 28-July 4

Drama Camp — Grades 7-12 — July 5-11

Beginner Camp — Grade 3 — July 12-15

Junior Classic Camp — Grades 4- 6 — July 12-18

Classic Camp, High Adventure — Middle and High School — July 12-18

Youth Mission Camp 1 — Grades 7-12 — July 19-25

Family Camp — All Ages — July 30 - August 1

We hope that we will still be able to hold camps this year, For this reason, changes are being made in the registration process. You may chose to register your child without paying the deposit. This can be completed by using the brochure or by downloading a hard copy of the registration form on the web site.

Also, you may communicate directly with Rev. Phil Hardy, Executive Director, at phardy.jrvc@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 6)



Setting up E-Giving

Particularly during this time of Pandemic, we can continue to support the ministries and operations of our church by either mailing our contributions to the church, or by setting up recurring giving through VANCO Services, the company that facilitates our online contributions.

Go to the Peace Church website (www.peaceucc.com) and click on the link where it says "Click here to make a secure online donation". This will take you directly to our page at VANCO Services.

Set up your profile (on the right side of the screen, click on Create Profile). You will need to add:

- First and Last Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Email address (you will log in with this in the future)
- Create a password (don't lose it or you'll have to reset it!)
- You will also need your bank routing number and checking/savings account number
- Return to donation page and log in.
- Click on "Add Transaction" above the "my scheduled transaction" section.

Note about recurring and non-recurring donations: You CANNOT set up a recurring and non-recurring donation at the same time (i.e. current benevolence and Love Fund). You must set them up separately.

- Put the donation amount in the appropriate fund category.
- Choose your donation frequency (one time, weekly or monthly).
- Put in the donation start date (if you select a Sunday, the donation will be taken from your account on the following MONDAY).
- Select continue

In the donation information box, you will need to choose the account from which you want VANCO to draft your donation. The first time you will need to set up the routing and bank account information for either a checking or savings account. Subsequent donations will list the last 4 digits of any account you've already set up and give you the opportunity to set up alternate accounts.

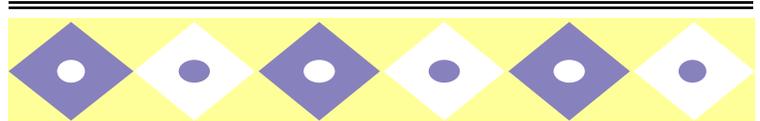
Click on the process button.

You will be directed to a confirmation page where you can see to whom the donation is being made (make sure it says Peace UCC!), which fund it is going to, where the donation is being drafted from and the frequency of the donation. You can print this confirmation page for your records.

You will also receive an email confirmation from VANCO that a donation has been set up.

You can click on the link to the VANCO payment services on the Peace UCC website to view scheduled donations and check previous donations. You can edit your profile information by clicking on the profile tab in the upper right corner. You may also cancel or change a donation at any time prior to the draft date. You can add different checking/saving accounts also.

If you would like help setting up your online giving, please contact **Karen or Russ Haver at 336-870-5363**.



(Continued Hummingbird Cake recipe from page 5)

eggs and oil, stirring just until dry ingredients are moistened. Stir in vanilla, pineapple, bananas, and toasted pecans.

Divide batter evenly among 3 well-greased (with shortening) and floured 9-inch round cake pans.

Bake in preheated oven until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes. Cool in pans on wire racks 10 minutes. Remove from pans to wire racks, and cool completely, about 1 hour.

Prepare the Cream Cheese Frosting: Beat cream cheese and butter with an electric mixer on medium-low speed until smooth. Gradually add powdered sugar, beating at low speed until blended after each addition. Stir in vanilla. Increase speed to medium-high, and beat until fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes.

Assemble Cake: Place 1 cake layer on a serving platter; spread top with 1 cup of the frosting. Top with second layer, and spread with 1 cup frosting. Top with third layer, and spread remaining frosting over top and sides of cake. Arrange pecan halves (or slightly chopped if desired) on top of cake.

A Prophetic Vision

A Message from The Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, Southern Conference Minister

One of the world's greatest teachers of the Hebrew Bible, Dr. Walter Brueggman, relates a message in his book, 'The Prophetic Imagination'. In it he shares that the Prophetic Vision embraces the pain of the people, but also creates the energy based on the new things that God is doing among us.

Something is being revealed to us. Can you see it? We are being called on to use our prophetic imagination to embrace this collective pain and challenge that will allow us to realize that God is doing new things. I have been amazed at the way churches, clergy and individuals, are communicating more with neighbors, families and friends. Families are eating together. And, we are listening more. And encouragement is being shared from every social setting. Even politicians are finding ways to be cordial and polite. Maybe this is because there is a nondiscriminatory presence in the form of a virus that is lurking among us. It is this shadow that says that any of us can be susceptible, whether old or young, rich or poor, male or female, it has no set parameters.

In many settings, ministry is being done much differently than before. Congregations are embracing technology that will expand ministries into the future, and new possibilities will emerge. In these times of uncertainty, our faith is being tested. However, we will draw from the well of hope to quench our thirst from the dry places that exist in our collective lives. I will, like you, be a witness to God's power to move us out of the depths of despair and place our imagination into the high place of spiritual victory.

My prayer is that while, in our practice of social distancing, we do not engage in social isolation. We have to support one another. We have to encourage one another. And we have to reach out and express the love that is in us all. I pray for each of you in my daily prayers. I pray for our firefighters and other first responders. I pray for those in the medical profession. I pray for the scientists. I pray for the grocery store clerks. I pray for the farmers. I pray for all the children and those who are called to instruct them. I pray for all those who serve in many ways. I pray for our national leaders who are being challenged to lead in difficult times. And, I pray for every congregation who is saying "Yes" in spite of the conditions. And, I pray for all of those who have been directly impacted by Covid-19.

I believe God created us on purpose, with a purpose and for a purpose. And the purpose is being revealed in ways that each of us can identify. We are called to love one another, care for one another. It is a time for compassion. It's a time when our souls must be open to where God is leading. Lately I have been singing a song in my heart and the lyrics goes like this. "I need you. You need me. *"We're all a part of God's family....You are important to me. I need you to survive"* (Hezekiah Walker). Let us use our prophetic imagination to embrace the new thing God is doing among us.



October 5-7, 2020

Tenth Annual UCC Retired Clergy Retired Servants Retreat will be held at the Blowing Rock Conference Center

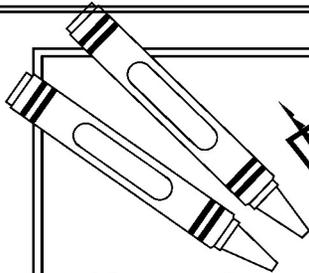
October 23- 25

Mindfulness Retreat " Flourish, Not Fixed" will be held at Johns River Valley Camp. This retreat will be led by Bob Martin, JD, MSW. Participants will be invited to deepen their understanding as to how to use mediation as a spiritual practice. Registration will begin in May.



Peace United Church of Christ
2714 W. Market St.
Greensboro, NC 27403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PUZZLE

Picturing the Lord's Supper

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.

And he took , gave  and  it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my  given for you; do this in  _____ of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This  is the new  in my blood, which is  out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Easter Cake

Celebrate our risen Lord with this uniquely decorated cake.

What you need:

- Adult help 
- Box of cake mix (any flavor)
- Tub of brown frosting
- Shredded coconut
- Green food coloring
- Chocolate Hostess Ding Dong cupcake
- Donut hole
- Pretzel sticks
- M&M's candies

What you do:

1. Bake cake in rectangular pan. When cool, frost it.
2. Pour coconut into bowl. Add drops of green food coloring. Mix until coconut resembles grass.
3. In one corner of cake, set Ding Dong upright to resemble a tomb. Place donut hole in front of it, to one side.
4. Make three crosses with six pretzel sticks and some frosting. Arrange on opposite corner from tomb.
5. Use brown M&M's to make a path from the crosses to the tomb.
6. Use other colors of M&M's to spell out "Jesus lives!"

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

Lois Bell; Dot Benshoff; Bertie Bowman; Nan Buchanan; David Fesperman; Lucille Hege; David Hirano; Glen Hutchinson; Buddy Lippard; Sylvia Lippard; Carol MacDonald; Sally McGrogan; Abigail Miller-Warren; Sharon Mitchell; Jean Morgan; Jack & Marcy Neal; Jean Scott; Dale Starr; Abbie & Don Wheeling; Doris Yeattes.

Remember these wider church family and friends:

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); Ron Hindson (father-in-law of Amanda Hindson); David Kaynor (nephew of Debbie Kaynor); Betty Larimer (aunt of Trish Larimer); Debbie Lillie Busch (daughter of Mary Lillie); Beatrice Rosenthal (mother of David Dole); Annette Sarty (sister of Yvonne Poffenbaugh).

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING FOR MARCH

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP	REGULAR OFFERING	OTHER OFFERING	OTHER RECEIPTS
March 1	7	65			
March 8	10	68			
March 15-31	NO SERVICE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC				

PEACE CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

(Through February 29, 2020)

	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Amount Over (Under) Budget
Contributions from Members & Friends, Plus Other Receipts	14,441	31,771		
Disbursed in Support of Ministries, Programs & Facilities	18,488	34,385		
CWS Blankets+, Iris Haislip Memorials (designated to Women's Fellowship)	600			



April Birthdays



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Greg Haver	11
12	13 Avery Dole	14 Aiden Leszinski	15	16 Nan Buchanan	17	18 Rachel Johnson
19 Beverly Haithcock	20 Theo Scott	21	22 Lucille Bennett Nora Norred	23	24	25 Brady Dole
26	27	28 Kathy Syster	29 Sharon Mitchell Roy Smith Wendy Washington	30		