



# PeacePress

Official Peace Church Newsletter  
A Global Mission Church



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

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## march

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## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Tom Warren



We are, once again, right on the edge of the Lenten season. This is the time when we walk with Jesus as he makes his way to Jerusalem for his showdown with the first century powers of darkness – the Roman Empire. Along the way he will teach, heal, inspire, as well as mystify and anger those whom he meets. Some will call him the Son of God, others will scoff. Not much middle ground with Jesus!

Lent officially begins with Ash Wednesday (March 2nd) in which we typically have an Ash Wednesday service. This year, because of the many pains and challenges facing our world, we will be recognizing World Day of Prayer with a service on Friday, March 4th at 7:00pm. This service, sponsored by the UCC Western North Carolina Association, will provide us time to lament and express our pains and struggles, turn to God in prayer and petition, and move toward renewed hope through the Holy Spirit.

Our preacher for this service will be the Rev. Ervin Milton, pastor at Union Chapel UCC in Burlington, North Carolina. Leadership of this service will be shared by various area UCC ministers and will be a time for us to strengthen our bonds as the diverse body of Christ that we are. Kathryn Virgilio will offer two special solo pieces and Elisabeth Penry will lead us on organ and piano.

As part of this service we will be taking up an offering for the 100 Afghan families who

have recently arrived in Greensboro and are being served by the New Arrivals Institute. These financial gifts will be collected and used to purchase each family a brand-new blanket for their bedding. Each blanket costs approximately \$25 and will be distributed to each Afghan family by the staff of the New Arrivals Institute.

World Day of Prayer is a wonderful way to begin our Lenten season; a season when the powers of darkness descend upon Christ but ultimately, are not victorious. This season is a testimony, so badly needed in our world today, that while things may seem bleak in our lives and wider world at the moment, God is preparing to do a new thing...and we must be prepared.

I hope everyone will join us on March 4th at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. For those who can't come in person we will be livestreaming the service on our Facebook page. Please join us as we pray for the world.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

Thanks to all of the Hands-On members who completed January and February pillows. We have set an excellent pace for the year delivering 72 pillows in January and 74 pillows in February. We are looking forward to the March 9 session at 1 PM. We can really use new members in our ranks, particularly pillow stuffers.

Come and visit us, and you will want to be there every month!



## A NOTE FROM ELISABETH



Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent – is March 2nd which means almost the entire month of March (except 1 day) is in Lent. It is a season of reflection, prayer, and experiencing our connection with God.

Music can be one way of helping direct our thoughts and focus our attention on Him.

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" on page 195 in our hymnal works well as a personal devotion. It divides easily into phrases for prayerful thought, and ends with the statement of total commitment: love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. That's an expression of the core of our Christian faith in just twelve words! Hymns are poetry, and hymns are prayer. In our hymnal the Lent section is called Suffering and Death from pages 194 – 214. There are hymns, prayers, and various worship aids. The hymnal can be a personal devotion book – it's so much more than just for congregational singing on Sunday mornings. Let's make good use of this resource.

Let's all try to intentionally work to deepen our relationship with God during Lent!

***For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. - I Corinthians 8: 5-6 (NIV)***

## THANK YOU FROM TRISH LARIMER

The Family of Betty Larimer (Elaine and Trish) would like to thank the members of Peace Church for all the lovely cards, prayers and words of encouragement upon the death of our aunt. Your kindness has been so appreciated,

Love,  
Trish

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

# UCC CUBA STUDY SEMINAR

## ***NEW DATES CONFIRMED!!***

After bumping into a perfect storm of political, pandemic, and travel barriers to the previously scheduled UCC Cuba Study Seminar trip, originally scheduled for this past January, we are pleased to announce that the UCC Cuba Study Seminar has been rescheduled for Friday, May 13th – Sunday, May 22nd, 2022.

At this time our housing issues have been worked out, group flights are being offered again by the major airlines, and the Covid surge that was happening back in January has subsided in fairly dramatic fashion. Cuba is welcoming tourists, and more and more groups are making their way down there and reporting wonderful experiences.

Co-Chairs of the Seminar, Kimberly Miller and Rev. Tom Warren, are requesting that those who are interested in this trip please email them at [ucccubastudy@gmail.com](mailto:ucccubastudy@gmail.com) and more information will be shared.

Cuba is a land of beauty, a rich history, and surprising achievements in the field of healthcare, education, and global solidarity efforts with the poorer nations of the world. Over the past 40 years, the UCC Cuba Seminar has developed strong ties with the Cuban churches, often under very difficult circumstances. The upcoming seminar trip seeks to continue this joyous relationship as we act in solidarity with our Cuban brothers and sisters in Christ. Join us!!

# CONSISTORY NOTES

On behalf of the Consistory, I want to thank all our members who participated in our Congregational Meeting either in person or online.

We discussed our Mission, the Three Year Plan, Accountability, Growth, and Promotion. We did vote to commit as a Congregation our time and resources to grow the Church in order fulfill our Church's Mission. The Vision and Mission Team has been working on creating a new Vision Statement and a revised Mission Statement.

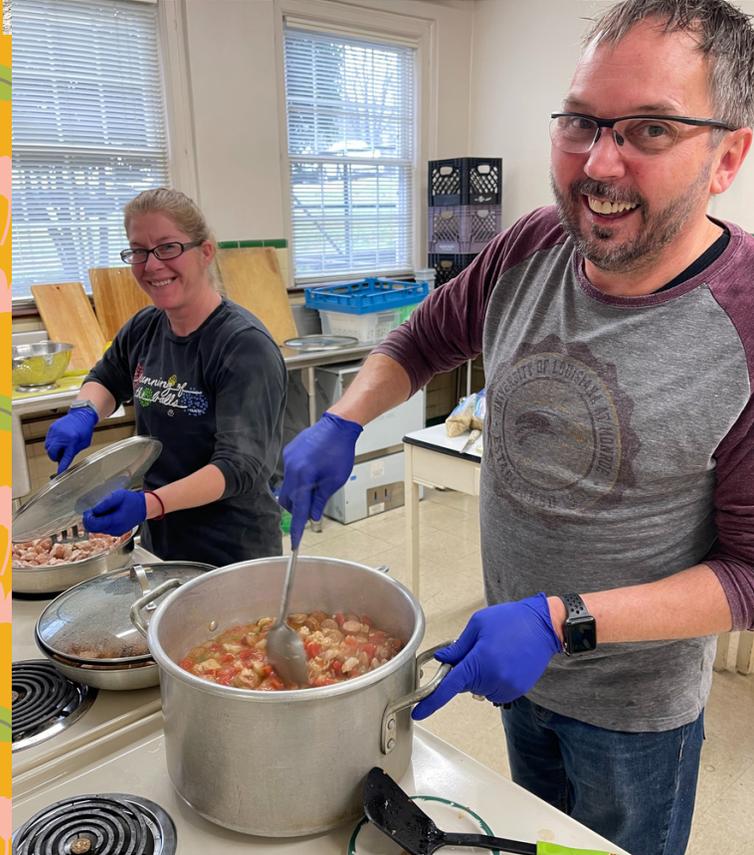
Also, during our February Meeting, we discussed renting additional space to New Arrivals Institute as they have more participants in their program. We have increased the monthly rent and will monitor the impact on our utilities. Another concern regarding property is our boiler. We have had two service calls in January for repairs. We are researching the cost of replacing the boiler which will be quite costly.

As we enter into the Lenten season, we are reminded of the cycles of our lives when old ways die to make room for new. Lent represents such cycles with the conscious release of what no longer serves us so that we may discover new ways of living – something we all have experienced from the Pandemic. As we move forward, we know that we are in God's hands.

Blessings,  
Ava Chambers  
Consistory President

# JAMBALAYA SUCCESS!

A BIG thank you to all who helped out with Jambalaya this past February! Whether you spread the word about the sale in your circles, came to help with prep, helped on the day of sale, or just bought some Jambalaya for yourself, we appreciate you! Here are some pictures from the volunteer work that went on.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**THANK YOU FROM THEO SCOTT**

I wish to express my appreciation for the concern and prayers from the congregation for my family. My sister, LaVerne, continues to be quite ill, and the road will be long dealing with advanced dementia, cardiac issues, and breast cancer. We are grateful for your support at this difficult time.

Theo

- March 3rd – Archie Jolliff
- 7th – Chris Bowen
- 9th – Ruth Doggett
- 12th – Rachel Cumberland
- 13th – Abbie Wheeling
- 15th – James Baker & Teyrnon Bowen & Cassandra Virgilio
- 18th – Dot Benshoff
- 22nd – Cindy Spillers
- 23rd – Lucille Hege & David Peeler
- 26th – Beth Troy
- 28th – Larry Clapp & Grant Jolliff

**Peace United Church of Christ - Greensboro, NC  
Treasurer's Report as of December 2021 for General Fund**

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
<b>Offerings</b>					
4001	Pledges	10,525.00	109,810.00	118,228.00	107,703.00
4003	Loose Offerings	35.00	35.00	500.00	465.00
4004	Initial offerings	0.00	0.00	00.00	00.00
4006	Non-Pledge Offerings	565.00	565.00	4000.00	3,435.00
4007	Sunday School	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Total Offerings</b>		<b>\$11,125.00</b>	<b>\$11,125.00</b>	<b>\$122,828.00</b>	<b>\$111,703.00</b>

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Rem.
<b>January 2021 Income Total</b>	<b>\$15,731.13</b>	<b>\$15,731.13</b>	<b>\$151,078</b>	<b>\$107,703</b>
<b>January Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$14,356.80</b>	<b>\$14,356.80</b>	<b>\$220,873</b>	<b>\$205,986.20</b>



**January Income-Expenses: \$29,476.36 - \$18,094.36 = \$11,382.00**

**We had a large donation of \$4,147.13 to be used for future solar panels.**

**Monthly pledges need to be \$9,852.33 each month to reach our goal of \$118,228.**