

CALL *and* RESPONSE

VOLUME 1.7, NOVEMBER 2018

ANOTHER STORY...

PRIOR TO MY ARRIVAL at United Church, the congregation worked for several years to prepare for the retirement of Jill and Rick Edens. This process included sustained attention to what the church could identify as Core Values shared by the whole congregation and existing Strengths or Assets that we had to work with. You can find more details about those values and strengths in the 2018 catalogue we printed this summer entitled “A Place of Belonging for all God’s Children.”



CAMERON BARR

Nurturing Faith Formation was identified by the church as a core value, meaning that we believe one’s spiritual growth is a lifelong journey. A corollary to that core value is the strength of our Faith Formation programming. There are two primary ways that United Church invites young people along an unfolding spiritual journey. The first of those is through what I call our discipleship programs—that is, those programs like Sunday school, youth group, or Confirmation that teach about the Christian faith and help young people reflect on God’s presence in their lives. A second track of Faith Formation programming is in our choral ministries—the Children’s Choir, the Youth Choir, the Chancel Choir, and other opportunities that we have to sing and worship together.

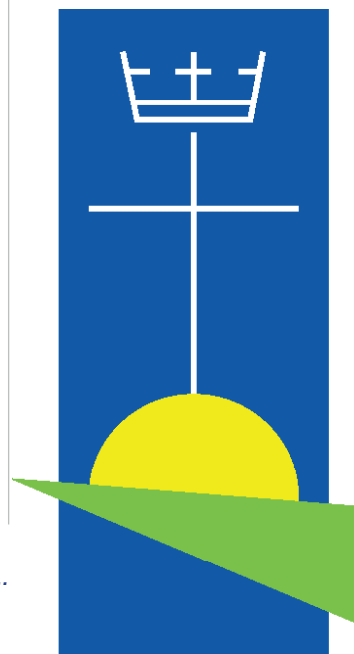
The congregation recognized long before I arrived that we are uniquely blessed with strong programs for Faith Formation along both of these tracks. The high value we place on the development of these programs is reflected in the highly skilled staff that we have to lead them. Ian McPherson and Anitra Grove are leading us in the discipleship programs for children and youth. Jenny Anderson and now Bob Brewer are leading us in the choral programs. The other pastors, including myself and Pastor David, are also focused on supporting Faith Formation through our preaching, worship, and caregiving efforts. These programs are at the heart of what makes United Church who we are—and they reflect the core values we’ve adopted as a church: our commitments to social justice, our extravagant welcome, our progressive theology.

Starting the weekend of November 4, many families in our church will be participating in listening sessions convened by our staff in partnership with a team called Ministry Architects. This is a process to evaluate and strengthen our Faith Formation programs, to plan for their continued growth, and to make sure we’re meeting the needs of our church’s

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ANOTHER STORY Continued...

families. You can support this process by taking part as the opportunities arise and offering your prayers for the children and youth who are part of our congregation.

And now that we're nearing the end of Stewardship season, please make sure to offer a pledge of financial support to the church's ministry in the next year. Our collective investment will assure that our congregation is able to welcome more families with children along this lifelong journey of faith.



Rev. Cameron Barr

STONE SOUP

Join us Sunday, November 4 starting at 10 am for Stone Soup. At UCCH, we celebrate Stone Soup to emphasize our collective desire to be sacrificial in our giving to the church. On November 4, please bring: your pledge card, veggies for Stone Soup (bring chopped onions, leeks, carrots, celery, and canned diced tomatoes by 9:30am), and a dessert to share.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE



Anitra Grove,
Director of Children's Ministries
agrove@unitedchurch.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

10 am Sunday School
11 am Board of Children's Ministries

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

10 am Sunday School

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

10 am Children's Church
Giving Tree Begins

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

No programs (Thanksgiving Weekend)

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

I'M SO GRATEFUL to the United Church of Chapel Hill family that welcomed me in a special service of Installation on September 30. I was deeply touched by the thoughtful gifts: of the Church Council, promising rest and support; of the children and youth, promising prayers and years of growth symbolized in a new dogwood tree; of the musicians, promising praise and thanksgiving to God, the joyfulness of a tambourine and the fanfare of the brass. It was a treasure, also, to welcome so many guests from the Southern Conference and as far away as our church partners in Germany. The service of installation was a testament of hope for all that God continues to do in our life together. Thanks be to God!

~Senior Pastor, Cameron Barr



“MAKING CONNECTIONS”

By **RINNIE** ORR

ON OCTOBER 19, 45 members and friends of United Church journeyed to the Blowing Rock Conference Center and together experienced much “JOY” through fellowship, Bible study, walking meditations, gratitude practices, birthday celebrations, community art projects, worship, s’mores, hymn sings and more. Through grace and a spirit of generosity, new friendships and connections were made.

During our Sunday worship time at the retreat, Cely Chicurel shared a passage from “The Book of Joy”, a book of conversations between his holiness the Dalai Lama and Bishop Desmond Tutu which summed up our time together in the mountains: “When we have a generous spirit, we are easy to be with...we radiate happiness and our very company can bring joy to others. When we practice a generosity of spirit, we are in many ways practicing all the other pillars of joy. In generosity...we see our connection to all others. There is a sense of humor and ability to laugh at ourselves so that we do not take ourselves too seriously. There is forgiveness of others, gratitude for all that we have been given. We see others with a deep compassion and a desire to help those who are in need....taking care of others ultimately is the way to discover your own joy and to have a happy life.”

As we move through this season of stewardship, we are asked to reflect upon our shared life at United Church. This year, I’m most grateful for the shared experiences of mission through the Guatemalan Mission Trip and coming together in joy and fellowship at the retreat. Through both experiences, I witnessed a true church family coming together, connecting in love and in service to and with one another.

This November, along with being ushers, greeters and coffee hosts on Sunday mornings, we have a number of opportunities to make connections and serve our community.

Alternative Gift Market & Peacemaking Concert

Friday, November 16 & Sunday, November 17

We are still looking for volunteers to help with: setting up tables, putting up signs and helping artists on Thursday November 15, greeters to greet the Alternative Gifts shoppers and guests on Friday, November 16 (5-8pm) and Saturday, November 17 (9am-3pm), greeters & ushers for the Peacemaking Concert on Friday night – A NEW EVENT AS PART OF THE MARKET! – on Friday (7:15 to 8pm), people to assist with parking lot direction giving and management (Friday 5-8pm) and Saturday (9-3pm), clean up Saturday (3-5 pm), and floaters (people on call to do whatever is needed).

“3rd Sunday” Potluck Luncheon

This Month November 18 at 12 pm (following the 11 am services)

Are you looking to meet new people and socialize after church? If so, the 3rd Sunday of each month is for you! Following both 11 am services, we have an informal potluck luncheon. Come meet new friends and make new connections. Please bring potluck items to share: bread, cheese, salad, main dish, dessert, etc...

Serving Thanksgiving at the Interfaith Council of Social Services

On Thanksgiving we serve 50-60 “neighbors in need” a special dinner of traditional foods: Turkey, veggie and sweet potato casseroles, cranberry sauce and (especially) pumpkin pie. To volunteer your service that day, please see the sign up sheet online on Sundays near the refreshment table or click here to register online: <https://tinyurl.com/yc27kkyt>. see the sign up sheet online on Sundays near the refreshment table or register online: <https://tinyurl.com/yc27kkyt>.

For more information on hospitality ministries and these programs in November, please contact Rinnie Orr, Director of Hospitality Ministries, rorr@unitedchurch.org, 919-942-3540.

YOUTH'S MINISTRIES NOVEMBER SCHEDULE



Ian McPherson, Minister for
Youth and Young Adult
Initiatives
imcpherson@unitedchurch.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2-3

9 am Listening Sessions with
Ministry Architects

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

10 am Service Planning for Dec. 2
4pm Ministry Architects Listening
Sessions Report
5pm Confirmation

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

10am Sunday School
10am Board of Youth and Young
Adult Ministries Meeting
11am Youth Group
5pm Confirmation

NOVEMBER 16-17

Alternative Gift Market

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

10am Sunday School
11am Youth Group
5pm Confirmation

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

No programs (Thanksgiving
Weekend)

“WARM WELCOME”

By **BOB BREWER**, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ ORGANIST

Thank you so much for your warm welcome! Having finished one week of work at UCCH I'm learning what an extraordinary congregation this truly is. It is exciting to be a part of a congregation that so openly embraces new people and ideas.



Because many of you have asked, here is a little information about myself. My musical study took me many places around the country and the world: Cincinnati, New York, Indiana, Paris, and the UK. My life and career has been spent predominantly in Texas, centered around the Houston area, and most recently in San Antonio. I've had the privilege of serving congregations and universities, including St. Paul's United Methodist, Church of the Epiphany and Congregation Beth Israel in Houston; the American Cathedral in Paris; St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Temple Beth El in San Antonio; Rice University and University of Texas at San Antonio, and Houston Grand Opera.

Although I've never lived in North Carolina I have professional connections through two recording projects. North Carolina School of the Arts sponsored a recording of new and rediscovered songs by North Carolinian composers, including Charles Vardell, Robert Ward, and Kenneth Frazelle. The second project was a recording of chamber music by Dan Locklair, entitled Reynolda Reflections, based on paintings exhibited at The Reynolda House in Winston Salem.

I join my husband Joe Causby, who began his work as Director of Music at Chapel of the Cross in August, our two dogs and Angel, our cat. We are loving the cool North Carolina weather!

The voice of UCCH, through its commitment to being a house of prayer for all people, and a positive influence in the world, inspires me to learn more about myself, and my place in the community.

UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, November 7

All members are invited to attend the Congregational Meeting. Dinner will begin at 5:45 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. The agenda for this meeting will be a discussion of the church's ministry. The meeting will conclude with a vote to pass the Aspirational Budget and Narrative Budget. Dinner and childcare are available to allow parents to attend the meeting. We look forward to your presence with us.

UCCH ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

Friday, November 16 & Saturday, November 17

(5 to 9pm) & (9am to 3pm)

This Year's Alternative Gift Market Mission will support the School Safe Zones initiative through Church World Service. With your help, we will have the opportunity to support School Safe Zones through a variety of new gifts: teacher training, clean water, infrastructure improvements, and sanitation, among others. Together, we can create more smiles and more success stories. Last year we raised over \$8,000. We will also continue our support of our local Interfaith Council of Social Services, which provides shelter, food, direct services, advocacy and information to people in need.



“What about Sunday?”

Because we have made changes to this year's market to open Friday to support the peacemaking concert and run Saturday from 9 am to 3 pm, many have asked “What about Sunday?” “Will shopping continue?” Part of the market will continue Sunday, November 18 starting at the 10 am hour. So, yes, bring your check book or some cash to purchase:

~ART: “Artists for a Cause” (those supporting our Church World Service Kenya Safe School Zones) will still be open for sales in our church's Assembly Hall.

~CHURCH WORLD SERVICE GIFTS OF AID: Gift cards to purchase clean water, school materials, teacher trainings, dormitory beds, meals and more will still be for sale.

~BAKE SALE at 10 am (in lieu of Coffee Hour): The Bronze Voices Handbell Choir will sponsor a bake sale as their annual AGM benefit for Meals on Wheels in lieu of the 10 am coffee hour. They need your help. If you are able, please bake and donate your favorite cookies, cakes, pies, breads, or other goodies for us to sell. Bring your baked goods to church on the 18th before 10 am and add your treats to the refreshment tables in the Fellowship Hall.

Still seeking volunteers for parking on market days, greeters on market days, set-up before the market, clean-up after the market, signs & decorations, road sign installation and retrieval, God's Bidding online auction donations. If you can help please contact Susan Meier, susanmeiertheater@gmail.com. Thank you!



PHOTO of THE MONTH

FINDING JOY

United Church members enjoying a good conversation and refreshments at the Blowing Rock Retreat.

NOVEMBER ADULT FORUMS

November 4: Stone Soup Sunday! Soup will be served in Assembly Hall. No adult forum; join us for table fellowship!

November 11: Roberta MacCauley, Community and Congregational Engagement Specialist from Church World Service, will offer an update on CWS' School Safe Zones project in Eastern Kenya. This special project provides teacher training, school rooms and sanitary lavatories for children, freeing them to attend school and creates the possibility of a sustainable future. Together with the Interfaith Council, School Safe Zones is a beneficiary of UCCH's 2018 Alternative Gift Market.

November 18: Enjoy the Alternative Gift Market! No adult forum, vendors will be set up in Assembly Hall. The gifts you purchase give twice.

November 25: Chrismon-making! All are invited to make ceramic Chrismons--ornaments of Christian symbols, from "Christ monograms"--with church member and master potter Cely Chicurel. Cely will have plenty of patterns and materials, enough for everyone to make one ornament for the church and one to take home.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Remember, it takes all of us!

As we begin planning for next year's programs here at United Church of Chapel Hill, please prayerfully consider how you might make a financial commitment to our ministry together with a pledge to United Church.

No gift is too small!

Save the Date:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

10 am to noon

Hanging of the Greens and
Advent Wreath-making!

DONT MISS OUT!

THIS MONTH *at* UNITED CHURCH

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2

9 am Listening Sessions with Ministry Architects

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3

9 am Listening Sessions with Ministry Architects

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4

8:45 am Festival Worship

9:30 am Children's Choir

10 am Stone Soup

10 am Sunday School Classes

11 am La Mesa Worship

11 am Worship & the Word

11 am Youth Group

12:30 pm Youth Choir

4 pm Ministry Architects Report

5 pm Confirmation Class

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7

5:45 pm Congregational Meeting Dinner

6:30 pm Congregational Meeting

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9

6:30 pm Friday Nite Social Club

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11

8:45 am Festival Worship

9:30 am Children's Choir

10 am Sunday School Classes

11 am Youth Group

11 am La Mesa Worship

11 am Worship & the Word

12:30 pm Youth Choir

5 pm Confirmation Class

7 pm Taize Worship Service

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16

Giving Tree Begins

5 pm Alternative Gift Market

7:30 pm Chapel Hill Carrboro Peacemaking
Scholarship Concert

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

9 am Alternative Gift Market

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18

8:45 am Festival Worship

9:30 am Children's Choir

10 am Sunday School Classes

10 am Alternative Gift Market

11 am Youth Group

11 am La Mesa Worship

11 am Worship & the Word

12 pm Third Sunday Potluck

12:30 pm Youth Choir

5 pm Confirmation Class

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving

10 am UCCH Serves at IFC

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25

8:45 am Festival Worship

9:30 am Children's Choir

11 am La Mesa Worship

11 am Worship & the Word

12:30 pm Youth Choir

UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL

LA MESA SERVICE*

11:15am

*en español e ingles

SUMMER SERVICE

9:30am

SERVICE

919-942-3540



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