

Community Church News ❖ Nov 2014

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Sunday Services – 9:00am & 10:45am

Nov 2 “Day of Remembrance” Multigenerational Service w/ Rev. Thom

On the Sunday after Halloween, join us for this multigenerational service. We'll hold our traditional “Day of Remembrance” service. Everyone is invited to bring a photo and/or small object representing a family member, friend, or pet you wish to remember. These will be used to decorate our altar.

Nov 9 “The New Jim Crow” Rev. Thom

Michelle Alexander's book, *The New Jim Crow*, has been hailed as a secular bible for a new social movement. Alexander writes about how the criminal justice system generally, and the War on Drugs specifically, has continued the systematic disenfranchisement of African Americans that used to be called Jim Crow. This morning we'll explore racial justice and what we can do locally to bring about the end of the New Jim Crow.

Nov 16 “The Very Definition of Liberal” Rev. Thom

UU minister Forrest Church has written that God should be properly thought as the world's most famous liberal. What he's getting at is the idea that “liberal” should be thought of as synonymous with generous, bounteous, abundant, extravagant, munificent, and profligate. (These adjectives could go on and on, liberally, of course.) This morning we'll explore a theology of abundance.

November 23 “Thanks for Nothing” Multigenerational Service w/ Rev. Thom

We'll begin our multigenerational Thanksgiving service with the *via negativa*, imagining a world without gratitude, without thanks. Then we'll reconstruct a world with gratitude at its center. Then, after the services, we'll all have a piece of pumpkin pie! See you in church!

November 30 “How Much is Enough?” Rev. Thom

Our wider culture perversely equates the Holiday season with a time of materialism, consumerism, and possessiveness. How is your relationship with stuff? How is materialism affecting your life and your family's lives? Join us this morning as we reflect on spirituality and stuff.



On My Mind & In My Heart...

The first time I ever spoke during a church service was as a student during my hometown's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. Representatives from all of the other faith traditions in my town came forward and offered readings of thanks and praise selected from holy scriptures: Hebrew Bible, New Testament, Koran, Book of Mormon, the Vedas. Then it was time for Unitarian Universalist scripture. When my turn came I read a poem by Max Coots.

Since that time I've always associated this time of the year with Max's lavish poem of generous praise for the people in his life. And, each year this time of the year makes me thankful that as religious liberals we take a wider view of what constitutes holy writ. From ancient tomes to modern poems, let us be thankful for whatever sources of inspiration speak to us.

I hope Max's poem speaks to you during this season:

“Let Us Give Thanks” by Max Coots

Let us give thanks for a bounty of people:

For children who are our second planting, and, though they grow like weeds and the wind too soon blows them away,
may they forgive us our cultivation and fondly remember where their roots are.

... continued on next page

Let us give thanks:

For generous friends ... with hearts ... and smiles as bright as their blossoms;

For feisty friends as tart as apples;

For continuous friends, who, like scallions and cucumbers, keep reminding us that we've had them;

For crotchety friends, as sour as rhubarb and as indestructible;

For handsome friends, who are as gorgeous as eggplants and as elegant as a row of corn, and the others, as plain as potatoes and as good for you;

For funny friends, who are as silly as Brussels sprouts and as amusing as Jerusalem artichokes, and serious friends, as complex as cauliflowers and as intricate as onions;

For friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as summer squash, as persistent as parsley, as delightful as dill, as endless as zucchini, and who, like parsnips, can be counted on to see you throughout the winter;

For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time, and young friends coming on as fast as radishes;

For loving friends, who wind around us like tendrils and hold us, despite our blights, wilts, and witherings;

And, finally, for those friends now gone, like gardens past that have been harvested, and who fed us in their times that we might have life thereafter;

For all these we give thanks. Amen.

See you in Church!
- Rev. Thom

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

GRINCH NIGHT

The Grinch (Our Own Scott Provan) is coming to town! Please join us Friday, December 7th for All Church Community Supper from 6:00-7:30. A main dish and dessert (with vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options) are provided for \$2/person. Please bring a side (vegetable, salad, bread, etc.) to share. This is popular event is fun for all ages. You don't want to miss the opportunity to witness the Transformation of the Grinch in this live performance.

The Diary of Anne Frank--

The play *The Diary of Anne Frank* will be performed at church 11/14 at 7:30, 11/15 at 7:30, and 11/16 at 5:00. The Director is Marni Goldshlag and the performers included Darith Klibanow, Jenny Warnasch,

Steve Garfinkle, Ruth Gibson, Ken Hirsch, Emma Friedman, Franklin Hirsch, Jenny Nelson, Jesse Prakken and Devin Klibanow. The play is adapted from Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl, edited by Otto Frank. It was the winner of the 1956 Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award. It is appropriate for youth. Younger children are welcome to come but parents should be aware that the play focuses on the Holocaust and has a serious tone and a lot of dialog.



CARING MINISTRY

Our ministry provides visits and emotional support to members who are hospitalized or homebound, lends out Caring Quilts to members to provide comfort and symbolize the support of our community, and assists members in finding resources and support services in times of critical need.

If you have any caring needs you can reach the Caring Ministry at caring@c3huu.org. Ivy Brezina will be coordinating until Nov. 8th and can be reached at (415)663-8703. For the rest of the month, contact Joann Haggerty at (919)929-5573. You can also let us know about a caring concern by filling out a Joys and Sorrows card in the Commons. Cards are on a table on the right side as you enter the sanctuary

Spiritual Explorations (SEA)

We will continue at SEA in November with Build Your Own Theology (BYOT) offered November 6 through December 4 (skipping Nov. 27). This classic UU course will allow participants the chance to address important spiritual questions such as "Who or what is in charge?" "Who am I?" "How do I know what is true?" "What is the purpose of my life?" "What does my death mean?" BYOT will be held at church from 7 until 9pm.

Also stay tuned for exciting courses in winter and spring including the Rational and the Righteous mind. To sign up or for more information, please visit the SEA table after service in the Jones Building.



SHARE THE PLATE

SHARE THE PLATE DEADLINE SUNDAY, MAY 1st FOR REQUESTS JULY-DEC, 2015.

The Share the Plate Steering Committee accepts nominations for non-profit causes that are consistent with the mission of The Community Church twice a year. The deadline for the next submission is October 26. E-mail applications to either Barb Chapman at barbchapman@bellsouth.net or stp@c3huu.org. Current nomination forms can be found on the church website at <http://www.c3huu.org/share-the-plate.html>. Committee

members are Jill Baker, Barb Chapman, Jena Kaizen, John Leopold, Jane Provan, Bill Rote, and Susan Spalt.

STP – NOV 9: IFC THANKSGIVING DINNERS

Thanksgiving is a time for sharing, and again this year we have an opportunity to ensure that local families have a nourishing dinner to look forward to. Holidays are challenging to those who live on limited incomes, so several years ago the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service began a collection to provide festive dinners to individuals and families in need. \$25 buys a bag that contains a turkey or ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, a vegetable, bread and a dessert – enough for 4 people. You can help by contributing cash or a check with *Share the Plate* in the memo line. Any amount is gratefully received. Last year our donations supported dinners for 89 families, and we hope to increase that number this year. Then, as you gather with family and friends this holiday season, you will know that another local family is doing so because of your generosity.

STP – NOV 16: HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

STP – NOV 30: PEOPLE OF FAITH AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY & NC STOP TORTURE NOW:

WITHIN THESE WALLS

COMMUNICATIONS:

The Communications Committee has developed news release guide sheets and media contact information to help other church committees, ministries and groups publicize their activities and special events. The document link is on the committee's new web page under Committees/Ministries. The church's media coverage goals include developing a strong image that reflects our church's mission and values to the community and attracting visitors and new members. Communications Committee member Ruth Leopold is willing to mentor other members by reviewing proposed news releases. The Committee's web page includes other resources, such as links to the sermon YouTube page, an interactive timeline of church history, and inventory of church communication channels. This page will continue to be developed. Suggestions (and assistance!) are welcomed.

<http://www.c3huu.org/communications-committee.html>

CHARLES HOUSE 25th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN:

This fall Charles House has launched a \$750,000 campaign to renovate an unused child care center at Carol Woods into a building to provide day care for about 36 adults each day, rather than the current 22. Small group activities will continue in smaller rooms. Other areas will be used for advising families caring for elderly people, to train students interested in working with the elderly, and for overseeing any residential

homes. About \$325,000 is needed for the building renovation. Charles House sees the other programs as part of its mission to help the growing percentage of elderly in coming years.

2015 will be the 25th year since Charlie Jones' daughter and his friends began the original small day care center. The basic philosophy has remained the same and will continue in this new and larger location. Those interested in participating can email paul@charleshouse.org or call 919-967-7570 to learn details.

THE GRAVY BOYS ARE COMING TO THE COMMUNITY CHURCH!!

On Saturday November 22nd at 7:00 Pm this popular group will be performing to raise funds for TABLE, the Carrboro-based program that provides backpacks of healthy food to children each week in our community who are at risk for hunger. Nearly 1/3 of Chapel Hill-Carrboro children go hungry on weekends and school vacations when subsidized school meals are not available to them.

Due to the generosity of the Gravy Boys and a private donor, 100% of the proceeds will go to the TABLE program. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Visit the table in the Jones Bldg. after the service to purchase tickets.

Hurry! They are very popular!! www.gravyboys.com
www.tablenc.org

GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECTS –

Three patrols from Girl Scout Troop #1244 have completed projects at the Church to help earn their Silver Awards, the second highest honor given by the Girl Scouts. The troop spent five months and over 600 hours on the three projects. The Scouts used their cookie money saved for three years to pay for most of the projects.



The Manse Maidens completely redecorated the main floor of the Manse. They cleaned the walls and painted the kitchen and dining rooms. They also sewed new curtains for all the windows. The patrol completed their redecorating by stenciling a welcoming quote above the fireplace. The Manse is now a bright and inviting space to hold classes and meetings.



The Landscape Ladies renovated the garden area behind the Jones Building to provide some badly needed, additional play space for the church children. They leveled the garden area, removed many knee-high piles of dirt along

the tree line, and installed a barrier fence to keep children and balls from tumbling down into the ravine. They also spread gravel along the paths to the playground and Memorial Rock. The patrol finished their project by installing a paver patio in front of the sheds to create a hard surface for the children to play basketball on. The patio also makes the sheds more accessible.



The Woodworking Women built three lovely wooden benches to provide seating in the renovated play space. They also built an outdoor

storage container for any play equipment kept outside. The seating has already been used by several groups with high praise. The patrol also installed a new white board in Manse to help increase the usability of that space.

Girl Scout Troop #1244 has met monthly in the Manse for many years. We are thankful for the Church's support of the troop and Girl Scouting, and we are delighted to be able to give back to the Church. We hope that the congregation will enjoy the results of these projects. -- V. Bruhn, S. Falkovic, A. Germino, J. Krenitsky, L. Marin, L. Martin, M. Meyer, J. Nelson, J. Persia, and A. Westerhoff

SANCTUARY FOR DIALOGUE...INTERESTED?

You're invited to a "first" activity from 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Friday, Nov. 7 in the Straley Room. We encourage you to take the survey (optional), Moral Foundations Questionnaire at www.yourmorals.org, and bring your results to learn more about them (others found theirs surprising) or just come to share your thoughts about the sanctuary concept. Childcare provided if requested by Nov. 2. Registration (encouraged, not required) and information available at tabling Oct. 26 and Nov. 2 or contact Steve at warshaws@msn.com, 919-383-3499. (Work on this section of the church's strategic plan isn't officially on the schedule for a bit. However, a few participants in a SEA course last spring became interested and, with Rev. Thom's okay, began talking this fall as an informal group open to anyone wishing to work on this effort. The Board is aware and the Strategic Management Team is monitoring through updates.)

COMMUNITY DINNERS

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on the first Fridays of the month for fun and fellowship. We meet in the Jones Building at 6:00 to share a meal. \$2/person covers the main dish and dessert. Please also bring a side dish (salad, vegetable, bread, fruit, etc.) All are welcome!

- November 7th
- December 5th
- January 2nd

- February 6th
- March 6th
- April 3rd
- May 1st

OPEN MIC NIGHT IS COMING!

We are going to start something new on January 2, immediately following the All-Church Community Supper. We will have an Open Mic Night, from 7-8 PM. It promises to be a great deal of fun! And, sharpen up your talents, whether they be poetry, drama, music, magic, or dance. Everyone and everything (almost) is welcome! There will be a chance to sign up on line. Questions? Ask Linda Thompson, Ivy Brezina or Marion Hirsch.

PADDLE INTO FALL ~ OUTDOOR CONNECTIONS, Sat., Nov.8, 10:00

Rent a canoe or kayak (cheap) and join us for a potluck picnic on Cane Creek Reservoir. RSVP: chandlerdorfman@mindspring.com

CONCERT SERIES HELP NEEDED:

Many thanks to the workers for the Kruger Brothers Concert. We made over \$2000!! We now need baked goods and helpers for the Friday, Dec. 12 Barefoot Movement concert. Please contact Jane Provan at janerivaprovan@gmail.com if you can help with food. We also need some able bodied folks to help with breakdown in the sanctuary after the concert. Contact Terry Baker at bakerwt@yahoo.com if you can help. Helpers get in free!



JUSTICE UNITED:

Fall Organizing has begun! Justice United members and community allies have knocked on over 150 doors across four low income housing developments in Hillsborough, Chapel Hill, and Carrboro. Canvassers (eight folks from C3H2, including Rev Thom!) have spoken to over 50 residents, and have left tenant rights information hanging on doorknobs. Dozens of tenants are attending community meetings with JU members and allies to



identify issues in their developments that can be solved through collective action. <http://ocjusticeunited.org/justice-united-fall-action-update/> Join us!

- **Countywide Leaders Meeting: Nov 13, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**, at St. Matthews Episcopal Church (210 St Marys Rd, Hillsborough). Contact: Dan Hill (danhill41@gmail.com), and/or Joan Garnett (c3h.justiceunited@bellsouth.net)
- **Advanced Leaders Training in Community Organizing.** Two days: Fri, Nov 21: 12 pm – 5 pm and

Sat, Nov 22: 9 am – 5 pm @ Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. More information & sign up: Devin Ross (ross.devin@gmail.com, [919-358-5828](tel:919-358-5828))



A SOLARBRATION IS COMING!!!

The solar panels on the roof of the Jones Building will finally be connected to the power grid within the next couple of weeks. It's time to celebrate! We hope you

can join us to mark this important event for our church community with a "solarbration" on Sunday morning, **November 30**.



ECO's Environmental CORner:

First Sunday Recyclables

Nov. 2: Cell phones/accessories, batteries (AAA - D, button, rechargeable), **natural corks, plastic pencils, pens, markers.** Also, stop by the table for an **informational leaflet on plastics recycling** in Orange, Durham, and Chatham Counties.

Dec. 7: Recycle your incandescent holiday lights. Also, Home Depot and Lowes usually accept holiday lights for recycling in November/December. Home Depot has a coupon program for LED lights. (Check their website.)

Get involved with ECO. The mission of ECO is "To support and encourage the Church and its members/friends to take actions toward sustainability and better stewardship of Earth." We welcome new members. We meet after the second coffee hour on the 1st Sunday of the month. If you don't have time to join the committee, but are interested in environmental issues, we invite you to be added to our email list. Please send a message to ECO@c3hUU.org to join the list.



STANDING ON THE SIDE OF LOVE AT NC PRIDE :

"CHAMPIONS of MARRIAGE EQUALITY" was the theme for this year's float at NC Pride sponsored by the triangle area Unitarian Universalists. Our Rev.

Thom officiated, presenting awards to individuals and couples for their work in this cause, shouting out to the UU marchers following the float, and to all the bystanders watching the parade. Three of our church members were honored: **Melva Okun, Kathy Jooss and Laurie McDonald**, for their work against Amendment One, along with members of the UU Fellowship of Raleigh, (UUFR) and the Eno River UU Fellowship (ERUUF). Other honorees included Terry Schneider and Acey Tharrington of Hillsboro, Rev, Ann Marie Alderman, and Rev. Robin Tanner, Tracy Hollister, and Mark Chilton, soon to be Orange County's Register of Deeds.

We owe special thanks to four of our members whose efforts made it possible to enter our float--**Gary Giles** for leading the construction effort, **Susan McDaniel**, our

original float designer, for consulting, and contributing materials, **Bruce Paden**, for use of his trailer and for storing the float components and hosting a construction work party in his yard, along with a bonfire for roasting hotdogs and marshmallows, and **Mary Hulett**, for the use of her vehicle to pull the float, for driving and for help assembling and unloading the float. Thanks are also owed to **Marion Hirsch** and our youth, for preparing large medallions to decorate the float.

This year we had a planning team led by the Rev. Karla Brockie of UUFR, Nia Rodgers of ERUUF and Ruth Gibson from our church. Teamwork and advance planning allowed for special touches--a well-organized booth, with family-friendly activities, a marching band with rhythm instruments, and portraits of each champion decorating the float. Please consider serving on this team next year, as Ruth is ready to pass the torch.

To see photos of UUs at this year's Pridefest visit this dropbox site. You can also add photos of your own. <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/j2lb16hzt9f7vbj/AAC1Xd5SCqwh-A7z5ljmBHLwa>

UU CONNECTIONS

EVENTS AT THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT CENTER:

Thanksgiving: November 26-30 Start a new Thanksgiving tradition at The Mountain. Take part in a relaxed environment with evening programs, programming for children, and Sunday morning worship service. Thanksgiving dinner will be delicious. The best part: you don't have to cook or clean! Go to mountaincenters.org to register and find out more.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! December Newsletter Submissions need to be in by Nov 16th!!!

*** Submit articles to c3hoffice@gmail.com. Please remember the new 150 word limit for submissions.

*** If you would like to learn more about joining the Community Church of Chapel Hill, please contact our Director of Welcoming Ministries, Jacqueline Brett by calling the office (919) 942-2050, emailing c3hmembership@gmail.com, or find her at one of our Sunday services. Whether you are brand new or a long time attendee, and whatever your beliefs or background, we welcome you to our community of friendship and ideals.



The Community Church of Chapel Hill
Unitarian Universalist

106 Purefoy Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514